

Hayward fault ready to rock? /A3

Should city back out of Plaza plans? /A15

Behind the scenes at the Contra Costa Civic Theatre

dedicated volunteers
to make sure the show
goes on at El Cerrito's
neighborhood theater.

By J.R. DEATON
Staff writer

EL CERRITO — Most weeks from October through August, the 40-foot-wide proscenium stage of the Contra Costa Civic Theatre is filled with scenes from the comedy.

Music, comedy and song, soliloquy, laughter and more.

A remarkable place, full of dedicated people, who do remarkable things with remarkably fake props and mouse-ear moustaches, lighting and volunteer labor. Things work at the theater. In Feb. 5, 1960, with a first performance of the play, "Dear Mr. Prosser," the CCCT has dedicated audiences and made El Cerrito a little bit more special.

Many exceptionally talented people have come through the theater, said Louis Flynn, CCCT's backstage tour last week. The 77-year-old artistic director, founder of the CCCT, pointed to a volunteer who is applying Spackling to the ceiling and added "and mean just actors." Flynn said his late wife Bettianne joined the theater in 1959 at the movie house at Blake and San Pablo Avenue.

The theater group performs plays at the Harding School auditorium and moved to their current location at 951 Pomona Ave. in 1970.

Building housing the current was at that time a Boys Club building — an "empty shell" with



Joanna Jhanda

In the Contra Costa Civic Theatre dressing room David Lee puts on makeup for his role of Perkins the butler at Sunday's dress rehearsal of 'The Amorous Ambassador.'

no stage area and needing a lot of work.

A \$30,000 fund-raising effort began and with a lot of help from a lot of people, the Flynn's theatrical dreams continued in the new

venue.

Backstage are narrow walkways, secured ropes with pulleys and counter-weights, fire extinguishers and low-wattage blue lights.

Colored signs read: "Quiet on the Steps" and "Smile Alert." A short cramped stairwell leads from stage to dressing room.

In the dressing room is a row of 12 blue-framed mirrors lit by

bright bare bulbs.

A worn and scarred beige carpet, a bathroom and a sagging couch complement the room.

Scores of old program bills wallpaper the walls—one from

every play produced at CCCT since 1970.

Programs from "Inherit the Wind" and "Sweet Charity" and

See THEATRE ON PAGE A16

Council backs proposed full-time AHS police officer

Council members also
back the population
growth on the landfill.

By JAMES CARTER
Staff writer

ALBANY — The city moved a police officer at Albany Tuesday night.

By unanimous vote the City Council strongly urged Police Chief Larry Murdo to pursue a federal grant to fund a program called "COPS in School." If approved, a full-time officer would set up shop at the high school before the end of the school year.

However, before Murdo can apply for the grant, the Board of Education must approve the plan.

At last week's board meeting questions were raised about the need for and appropriateness of an armed, uniformed officer on campus. The board is set to continue the debate at its Jan. 26 meeting.

Longtime Albany resident Dario Meniketti vehemently opposed the cops on campus grant proposal. "The thought of having

a policeman stationed at our high school is abhorrent to me," he said. "Don't we already have police just two minutes away?"

"We might be heading toward a police state, but Albany High's time has not yet come," Meniketti said, adding, "I have faith that an enlightened school board and an enlightened school administration should be able to handle the

disciplinary problems at our schools."

Other members of the audience voiced strong support for the proposed program. "There is a growing need to have more interventions as well as positive intervention available to our youth," said Jack Rosano, president of Albany Police Activities League. "The resource officer program is

long overdue," he said, adding that everyone involved with APAL supports the proposal.

Jewel Okawachi also supports the application, calling the presence of a police officer on campus the opportunity to "build a bridge" between students and the police. Okawachi said students could

See GRANT on page A16

A dream lives on forever

Day marchers
saw progress made,
but still to go.

By J.R. DEATON
Staff writer

EL CERRITO — "Dear Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., I'm glad you could not see what we have turned out to be," a simple but moving letter from an El Cerrito student wrote on King's day. It was signed only, "J.R."

The message was one of scores of letters and essays that were part of the El Cerrito Fire Department's Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade.

city's 10th annual Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration.

"I'm doing this for the spirit of freedom and independence," explained 42-year-old Darrell Davis. A lifelong El Cerrito resident (and class of 1974 El Cerrito High School alumnus), Davis drove a white 1956 Rolls Royce Silver Shadow in Monday's parade.

He said everyone must learn "to live harmoniously as one people on earth."

More than 120 people marched through the streets of El Cerrito to an indoor celebration and rally at the Community Center.

El Cerrito Fire Department engines number 71 and 72 were part of the parade.

See DREAM on page A16



Joanna Jhanda

NAACP Youth Council member Tieri Patterson, 9 (left), and Donika Lewis, 7, walk up Mooser Lane to the Community Center in Monday's Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade.

EC raises approved over some protest

By J.R. DEATON
Staff writer

EL CERRITO — Hoping to stay competitive and retain management staff, the city council came up with the 2 percent solution.

After listening Jan. 4 to members of the public urge caution, postponement or a no vote, the council unanimously approved a 2 percent raise to all city management personnel.

"We're trying very hard to stay competitive and to stay close to the median," said City Manager Gary Pokorny in a report to the council before the vote. He noted that if salaries fall too low "we end up becoming a training ground" for other cities and municipalities.

Pokorny said that the city's management employees have not

received a salary adjustment for the past 18 months and his report notes the 2 percent increase would bring most positions "closer

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Worth Checking Out

Library/Community Center turn 5

The City of Albany, the Albany Library and Friends of the Albany Library host the fifth birthday party of the Albany Library and Community Center, Jan. 23 at 2 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, Marin Avenue at Masonic. Vice Mayor John Ely, Albany Library Board Chair Caryl O'Keefe, Albany Arts Committee co-chair Polly Rainfield, Albany Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Jewel Okawachi will welcome celebrants. Entertainment includes a swing and break-dance show by Albany Teen's "Bust-A-Move," and a circus performance for all ages by Jean-Paul Voljean. Birthday cake and drinks will be served. For more information, call 526-3720.

Sierra Club meeting

"Using Plants to Clean Up the Environment" is the topic at the next meeting of the West Contra Costa County Group of the Sierra Club on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Makemie Hall 545 Ashbury St. in El Cerrito. Professor Norman Terry will discuss his work in phytoremediation, the science of using plants to clean up the environment. Terry is a professor of Environmental Plant Physiology at UC Berkeley. He is best known locally for the restored wetlands he created with Chevron Corporation in 1988. Cattle and other plants in Chevron's constructed wetlands trap a large portion of the selenium released in the refinery wastewater, preventing it from being released into the Bay. Details: Debbi Landshoff, 233-9733.

Opening in Albany

Citizens of Albany are encouraged to apply for the vacancy of Board of Education representative to the City of Albany Park and Recreation Commission. A letter of interest must be submitted to the Albany Unified School District, 904 Talbot Ave., Albany, 94706, no later than Friday, Jan. 29. The Board of Education will appoint the representative at its meet-

ing on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Lions Club crab feed

One of the biggest annual social events in Albany takes place Jan. 22, when the Lions Club of Albany holds its 32nd annual fund raising crab feed at 6 p.m. in the Veterans Memorial Building in Memorial Park on Portland Street. The Lions have decided to hold the price down to their traditional \$25 per ticket. Tickets for this all-you-can-eat crab feed can be purchased from any Lions Club member, at the Albany Chamber of Commerce office, or may be ordered by telephone by calling 525-2920.

Calling weed warriors

Help remove smothering ivy from a stretch of Codornices Creek at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 23. Meet at the Eighth Street entrance to University Village (north of Harrison Street). Bring work gloves, clippers and light weeding tools if you have them. For details on the project sponsored by University Village and Friends of Five Creeks call Dawn Martin-Rugo, 524-4926 or Susan Schwarz, 848-9358.

Help find frogs.

Friends of Five Creeks and Friends of Baxter Creek need volunteers to listen for frog calls on Berkeley, Albany and El Cerrito creeks as part of a nationwide volunteer survey on declining amphibian populations, and to help with restoration. Learn early to identify calls at 7 p.m., Monday Feb. 1, Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. For information, call 848-9358 or email susanschw@aol.com.

Republican luncheon

Political analyst Dan Schnur of KGO/KSFO radio will be the guest speaker of the Kensington Area Republican Women's Club monthly luncheon meeting on Jan. 27 at the Mira Vista Country Club, 2900 Cutting Blvd. in El Cerrito. Schnur, director of a San Francisco-based independent political media consulting firm, will speak on the recent election as well as

the future of the Republican Party. Lunch will be served at 12:15 and social time will be at 1:30 a.m. For reservations call Betty Christopher, 237-4152, 2036 Tamalpais Rd., El Cerrito. Lunch is \$10 per person and the reservation deadline is Jan. 23.

AAUW silent auction

The Berkeley Branch of AAUW will host a silent auction to benefit the Educational Foundation on Jan. 23 at Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda in Berkeley, beginning at 1 p.m. AAUW's Educational Foundation includes the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund which grants fellowships to public school teachers intent on improving math and science teaching skills and funds research on gender equity in education. Fellowship application and membership information will be available. Recent Fellowship recipient and El Cerrito teacher Yolanta Walukiewicz will speak at the conclusion of the auction. The public is invited. There is no charge to attend and the location is wheelchair accessible. Details: 527-8558.

Pianist Julian White

On Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m., the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington, presents pianist Julian White in a concert of music by Claude Debussy, Maurice Ravel, Igor Stravinsky, and Julian White. Works to be performed include Mr. White's Ballade No. 1 (premiere), Debussy's Children's Corner, Ravel's Gaspard de la Nuit, and two pieces from Petroučka by Stravinsky. White has performed in concert extensively locally and nationally, and on radio and television. Presently White teaches in his private studio in Kensington, conducts master classes on piano performance and leads workshops on the relationship of music to humanism. He has recently completed a recording of Brahms' late piano works. The church is wheelchair accessible and parking is free. Suggested donation is \$15 general admission, \$10 seniors and students. Details: 525-0302.

Police Reports

By K. OSBORN

'Stolen' car was just misplaced

ALBANY — On the morning of Jan. 11, a resident on the 1200 block of Brighton Avenue called the Albany police station to report that she had found her red '87 Mitsubishi, which she had reported as stolen on Jan. 9. She had forgotten that she had parked it on the 600 block of Garfield, which was different from where she usually parked her car. The case was closed.

A resident on the 600 block of Cornell Avenue reported that on the afternoon of Jan. 12, thieves stole some checks from his van while it was parked in front of his house. There were no witnesses.

At about 4 p.m. on Jan. 14 a resident on the 1000 block of Pomona Avenue reported that her son had taken her green '92 Honda Accord without her permission. Officers contacted the 32-year-old Albany man, with the car and he was arrested and transported to the County Marhall's office.

On the morning of Jan. 14, a resident on the 1000 block of Peralta reported that during the night thieves stole various items from his black Ford pickup which was parked in front of his home. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of Jan. 14, a resident on the 800 block of Madison Street reported that thieves stole a laptop computer from his unlocked car. There were no witnesses.

On the afternoon of Jan., an

employee at a liquor store on the 700 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that a possible shoplifter was fighting with one of the clerks in the store. Officers contacted the 39-year-old Oakland man who had indeed stolen a bottle of champagne. He was arrested cited and transported to Berkeley jail.

Later on the afternoon of Jan. 14, a liquor store on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue reported detaining a juvenile who had been caught stealing liquor. Officers arrested the 16-year-old Albany boy and released him to his parents with a Notice to Appear.

On the morning of Jan. 15 two business on the 600 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that during the night thieves had broken into their businesses and stole various items. There were no witnesses.

On the night of Jan. 16 a resident on the 800 block of Carmel Avenue reported a domestic dispute at a neighbor's home. Officers contacted the party involved and arrested a 39-year-old Albany woman for spousal abuse. She was released on \$10,000 bail. They also arrested a 43-year-old Albany man who was cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

At about 8:30 p.m. on Jan. 16, a resident on the 600 block of Masonic Avenue reported that someone was banging on her front door and yelling for her to call the cops. She was afraid to open the door or to go out. Officers

investigated and found that subject, a 45-year-old Berkeley man, had just been robbed of a headset. He described his attackers as three black males in the early 20s. All three were wearing dark clothing and were gone when officers arrived.

At about 10:30 p.m. on Jan. 16 officers responded to reports of a white male standing in the middle of San Pablo Avenue attempting to get passengers to fight with him. He then went into the Albany Bowl causing some trouble. Officers arrested the 32-year-old Richmond man for public intoxication. He was cited and released when sober.

At about 2:30 a.m. on Jan. 16 officers stopped a blue '81 Buick 280Z for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 20-year-old Francisco man, was found intoxicated. He was arrested, cited to be released when sober and his car was towed.

During the week of Jan. 16 officers fingerprinted eight persons at their request, towed two cars, responded to 15 false alarms, tended to five lost or deceased animals, assisted one person who was locked out of their car, responded to one report of a barkign dog. In the domestic arena officers responded to standby, 15 reports of civil disturbances, and 63 Civil Albany officers topped 10 vehicles, issuing 4 citations and 6 warnings. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to one fire call and 8 medical emergencies.

Couple arrested on suspicion of manufacturing speed

By JAMES CARTER
Staff writer

EL CERRITO — On Dec. 22 an arson set trash cans ablaze at El Cerrito Royale located on the 6500 block of Gladys Avenue. This is not the first time such an incident has occurred. A suspect is wanted by police for arson.

A Hispanic man in his 30s strolled into Vacuum World located on the 10600 block of San Pablo Avenue Dec. 26, snatched a vacuum cleaner from a window display and raced away in a yellow Cadillac. The man was not identified, though police suspect he has a sullied record.

On Dec. 27, a thief forced open the door of an automobile parked in a car port on the 3000 block of Yolo Avenue He stole a flashlight, which he may have used when he broke into another car parked close by, this time grabbing some loose change and a pair of expensive sunglasses.

A car thief broke into an automobile parked on the 700 block of Kearny St. during the morning of Dec. 27, then hot-

wired the ignition and drove away. However the suspect apparently did not like the way the car handled, parked it on the street and stole another automobile more to his liking. The finicky criminal was fingered by eyewitnesses and is wanted for grand theft auto.

At around 6:30 p.m. Dec. 28, two teenage males stopped a man as he walked beneath the BART tracks near Eureka Avenue Reaching into their pockets as if they had a weapon, the boys blocked the man's passage and demanded his wallet and money, which he promptly delivered. The young criminals ran away with their loot, which amounted to \$4. They are wanted for robbery.

A thief broke through the bedroom window of a house on the 8000 block of Terrace Drive during the morning of Dec. 31 and stole computer equipment valued at \$2,100.

On the morning of Jan. 2, an adult couple with children living on the 2000 block of

Tamalpais were arrested manufacturing what is thought to be methamphetamine.

A 19-year-old woman had bad hair day Jan. 5 after being arrested for attempting to steal two bottles of hair relaxer from the Safeway Store on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue.

Police were led on a five-mile high-speed chase Jan. 5 as a Berkeley man attempted to make a get away in a stolen automobile. The 19-year-old man was arrested after he lost control of the car and smashed it near the San Pablo Avenue offramp at I-80. He was arrested.

On the morning of Jan. 2 a 24-year-old Richmond man also attempted to dodge police during yet another high speed chase that began near Plum Avenue and Carson Boulevard. The suspect soon crashed in another automobile injuring the driver, a 24-year old woman, well as his female companion. He was promptly arrested and charged for evading police and causing injuries.

Albany Chamber of Commerce

Here's an updated list of the names of people and organizations who have either purchased bricks or made a contribution to the "Cerrito Vista Park Playground Improvements Project - Give Our Kids A Safe Place To Play" effort. The campaign to date has raised approximately \$25,317 including the Rotary Club of El Cerrito's Community Challenge grant.

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Word from the trenches: 'prepare for the Big One'

More than ever, the Hayward fault looks like the location of the next big quake.

By CHRIS TREADWAY

CERRITO—The bad news: Chances of the "Big One" happening in the next 30 years are about 40 percent, and the odds that it will be on the fault in our back yard.

The good news: Single-family homes should ride out the 7.0 or greater earthquake reasonably well—unless they are located in areas or on bay fill (which is not turning to jello, a state known as liquefaction).

Scientists, a normally conser-

One thing to know about the Bay Area is that there is no escape—we all live near a fault.

—Bill Lettis, earth sciences consultant

hunch, upgraded the likelihood of a major disaster rumormongered below after an extensive study of past quakes along the Hayward fault.

The study was conducted at the few relatively undeveloped areas along the fault: Mira Vista Country Club. Bill Lettis, William Lettis & Associates, an earth science consultant, returned to Mira Vista last week to discuss the results of his study of the El Cerrito Rotary

when it comes to earthquakes, and in the same boat, he

One thing to know about the Bay Area is that there is no escape—we all live near a fault," Lettis said. "An earthquake is going to happen and it will probably happen in our lifetime."

Lettis said the study of data collected from the walls of a trench along the second fairway at Mira Vista Country Club has pegged the likelihood of a major quake in the next 30 years at 67 percent, compared to the northern Hayward fault at 40 percent, the most likely location for an eruption.

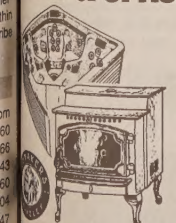
Shocks are now at 9-in-10 for a major tremor, and it isn't hard to see where the seismology community believes it will hit. (Seismologists picked a 30-year window of probability "because that's the length of a typical house mortgage and more inclined to get a loan than a longer time," Lettis said.)

Lettis said he was having lunch on top of the hills. Lettis told the "Bay Area." This is the worst place in the Bay Area.

Lettis said the Bay Area, which has the highest concentration of faults in the world, the Hayward fault

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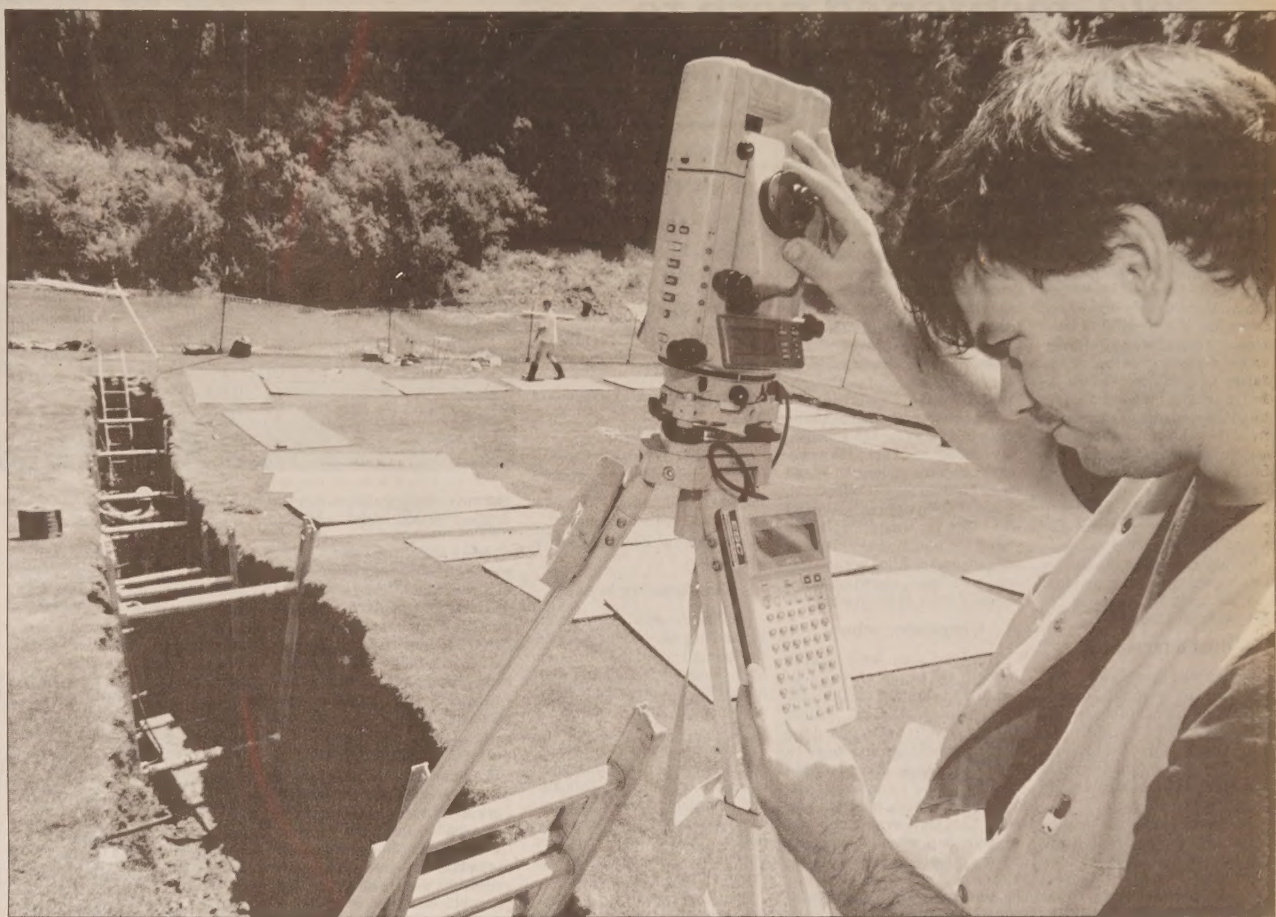
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Jeff Lindquist

Christopher Hitchcock of William Lettis & Associates surveyed the trench crossing the Hayward fault on Mira Vista's second fairway in July 1997.

is the most dangerous." The great earthquake of 1906 that leveled much of San Francisco was on the San Andreas fault, but scientists believe it relieved stress for the entire region. "It took time to rebuild that stress," Lettis said, noting that a pattern of quakes similar to those prior to '06 resumed in the 1970s.

The Hayward fault is building up stress at an average of 10 millimeters a year and "when it

builds up a meter we will have a 7.0," he said, adding that it may take two meters of stress on the fault line to trigger an event, which would mean an even bigger quake.

"A longer wait for an earthquake isn't necessarily better, it's worse," Lettis said.

Except in one important area: Preparation.

Bolted foundations and nailed shearwalls on homes can mini-

mize damage, he said. "You have to take it upon yourself to make sure you're prepared, Lettis said. While science is not able to predict when an earthquake will happen, and is "still in forecast and projection mode," Lettis said, "What we can predict is what the effects of an earthquake are going to be." That means that even if you—and hopefully your home—survive, you should have supplies on hand (water, food, other

essentials) to subsist for at least three days because much of the region's infrastructure will be out of action. Depending on the time of day it hits, most of the people left homeless by a major event on the Hayward fault could be in San Francisco simply because there would be no means for those working in the city to return home.

"We are going to have a real homeless issue in San Francisco

because the bridges will be down," Lettis said.

Not that the UC-Berkeley-trained scientist has any reservations about heading back to ground zero. Lettis and his crew plan to be back out on the Mira Vista fairways in a couple of months. Not to play golf, of course, but to dig another trench and conduct further study. "I love to talk about earthquakes," Lettis said. "It's my life."

Shore cleanup leaves state park closer to reality

By DAVID FERRIS

With the removal of tons of toxic soil, nine miles of East Bay shoreline from Emeryville to Richmond have moved one step closer toward becoming a shoreline park.

The cleanup was the final step before the East Bay Regional Park District received the 1,430 acres from Catellus Development Corp. Catellus, the park district and environmental regulators signed off on the transfer

last month.

Now the park district faces the challenge of working with four cities—Emeryville, Berkeley, Albany and Richmond—to create an open space to everyone's satisfaction.

The transfer of the land to the park district realizes a three-decade dream of conservationists to keep the shoreline open to the public and green. "I said I'd be long dead before this happened," said Jean Siri, a park district board member.

Years ago, developers had planned as many as nine high-rise hotels and office towers along the Albany, Berkeley and Emeryville waterfronts.

Catellus, one of the largest developers on the West Coast, sold the land to the state in early 1997 for \$27.5 million, which was paid with state and county land-acquisition bonds.

The state has agreed to let the park district manage the land, but the division of payments and responsibilities has

not been worked out, Siri said.

Catellus removed the soil from several former industrial sites over six weeks, said Chris Orlando, a Catellus spokesman. Catellus will absorb the \$3.1 million in cleanup costs.

The land includes 1,223 acres

of tidal wetlands and 207 acres of uplands.

The park district wants the length of the park to share common features, including the type of trail and interpretive signs. All those details remain to be hammered out.



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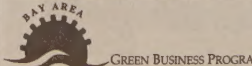
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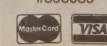
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Marvin Collins traveled the old-fashioned path to success: Hard work

By JAMES CARTER
Staff writer

EL CERRITO — Marv Collins graduated from the school of hard knocks — an academy that has an ever-growing number of students but few success stories.

As much a part of El Cerrito as the structures his firm built, Collins, a self-described farm boy with an eighth grade education, is now one of a handful of individuals on that city's wall of fame.

The nation's folklore sings praises to men like Collins — hard working individuals who pulled themselves up by the bootstraps to achieve personal success while making significant contributions to their communities. Yet much like the cowboy, such stories are quickly becoming fables, the stuff of historical novels and Hollywood movies.

Nevertheless, Marv Collins is such a person — an individual who can truly lay claim to the title "self-made man."

Just a farm boy

Collins was one of eight children born on a small farm in eastern South Dakota on Dec. 24, 1914. The times he spent there were happy ones, Collins said. "Though our parents had it tough, we as kids had the best part of life living there on the farm."

But by the 1920s, that was to change: rain stopped falling and great clouds of dust rolled over the Midwest, the drought creating what is known as the Great Dust Bowl. Farmers crops withered on the vine, banks foreclosed, and entire families — folks who had been farming for generations — were forced to leave their homes seeking work elsewhere.

The Collins family moved to a small town in South Dakota called Belle Fourche, where there was a sugar mill and a brick factory. "My dad salvaged two teams of horses and a couple of wagons and he made a living there," Collins said.

Though he was only in the eighth grade at the time, Collins worked hard, helping his brothers and father shovel coal from box cars into their wagon.

They hauled the coal to the brick factory, and, after unloading it, picked up 2,000 bricks by hand. Since there were no machines to loan the cargo, the bricks were tossed to them, eight at a time. They wore thick gloves in order to catch them, though Collins said "you had to be careful your fingers didn't get pinched."

After the wagon was loaded, they hauled the bricks down to the sugar mill, delivered the goods, then headed back to the train station for more coal.

"We did that for about a year-and-a-half," Collins said. "But here again, I think we had the best of it. We learned to work."

What did we get into?

When he was in his early 20s Collins decided to move out West. His brother worked in a linoleum

factory in the East Bay, so he made his way to Albany, where he settled July 1, 1934. "That was when Harry Bridges had called a general strike," Collins said.

The general strike — declared after two workers were killed by police during a longshoremen's strike in San Francisco — closed down the entire Bay Area. "The only thing running was the milk trucks," Collins said. "The National Guard was out everywhere. So God, here we were, a couple of boys off the farm, and we thought 'what the hell did we get into?'"

The young men soon rented a house in Albany for \$15 a month. "My brother and I got a job working for 40 cents an hour in a seed house rassing bags," Collins said. "Some of them were as heavy as I was." The job was difficult: the young brothers had to grab bags once they were filled with seeds, sew them closed, toss them onto a cart and stack them five high.

Carpentry school

Thinking such work "wasn't going to get us anywhere," Collins and his brother took classes in carpentry at night school. Three years later, they joined the Carpenters Union and went to work "Even then, once you were qualified to be a carpenter, you only got 50 cents an hour," he said. "But my foreman only got 75 cents. So it was all relative. As the war came on in 1941, of course, there was a lot of work to be done. By then we were both foremen and we'd get \$15 a day. Big money back then."

After Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Collins said "I wanted to do my duty," and tried to enlist in the Army and the Navy. Blind in one eye, Collins was turned away.

Though he never considered his bad eye a disability, it later turned out to be a blessing of sorts since during the war there was a severe manpower shortage in the United States and a lot of work to be done. Collins worked for J.P. Brennan (whose son John established Brennan's Restaurant in 1959). "I worked 10 hours a day, seven days a week during

'I told a number of my customers, if you don't like what we do I'll give you back your money because I'd rather have your friendship than your money.'

—Marvin Collins

the war," Collins said. "So naturally you saved a little money."

Yet soon he would set out on his own.

The first big break

Collins received his first big break doing what began as a relatively small job for the Carnation Milk Company in Oakland. Carnation hired a large company to remove a wall in one of their buildings.

Four days into the job, the construction company established an office on site, hired a teamster and a foreman, brought in an air compressor and installed a telephone. Yet the wall remained untouched. The company was rapidly growing impatient.

The next day a friend recommended Collins for the job and, after making an estimate, he was hired. "We went in there at six in the morning and by five o'clock that night we were all done, cleaned up, everything slick as a whistle," Collins said. "So (the company) said 'Jeez, this is a miracle!' They said 'We have quite a lot of work we want to do.' And so we remodeled stuff, and the jobs kept getting bigger and bigger until we ended up doing \$2-1/2 million worth of work there. That gave me a good start."

The Marv Collins Construction Company was soon well established around the East Bay.



Marvin Collins smiles as he relaxes in the home he built and thinks about his rise from grade school dropout to successful contractor.

Sharing one of the secrets of his success, Collins said "Whatever I did, I did it right. And if it wasn't done right we'd fix it. I told a number of my customers, if you don't like what we do I'll give you back your money because I'd rather have your friendship than your money. That's the way I felt about it."

No job too small

Collins said he soon learned there is no job too small. "One day I got lucky again," he said. "The guy who was running Sunset Cemetery at that time — in around the late '40s — their manager had a garage door that had given him nothing but trouble. I went up on a Saturday and luckily fixed it in an hour. He went back and told his pa — who was Walt Baxter, Sr. — that he finally found someone who knows what the hell he's doing. As a result he had us come in there to do a hell of a lot of work."

What started as a garage door repair soon grew into one major project after another, and by the time Collins company completed a chapel at Sunset, he was a member of the board of directors — a position he has held for 32 years.

Since then Collins has built more buildings than he can remember — including banks,

schools, houses, industrial plants and more. As one drives down San Pablo Avenue, there are dozens of those building still standing, not to mention hundreds of remodeling and repair jobs done. Though it may be a cliché, the fact is that Collins is quite literally a pillar of the community.

Speakin' at the

Rotary Club

Yet when he was invited to join the Rotary Club and had to make a speech, Collins was initially a bit concerned. "The other members all had college degrees — several some of 'em," he said. "They'd been through the war and came out a Lt. Commander and all that stuff. I thought, Jeez, what am I going to say?" So he told the club the truth — or at least part of it: he said "All I am is a little country boy trying to make a living in the big city."

Though he was a country boy, Collins had worked his way to the top of his profession. And despite his humble remarks, Collins was

never much impressed by big shots.

Recollecting the first time he met with the head of a corporation, Collins leaned back and smiled. "He was sittin' behind this great big walnut desk and he looked at me like he's way out there and I'm way down here. But after I got talking to him, realized, hell, he's just another guy like I am, and he probably doesn't know any more about business than I know about his

Common sense

"I guess my advice to people coming up through the ranks, there's no secret to success," Collins said. "It's just hard work, perseverance and common sense. I learned that people with a college education were no better than I was. Good common sense will solve most problems. And don't give a damn how much book learning you have if you don't know how to apply it, what good is it?"

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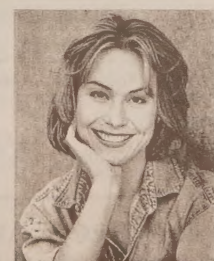
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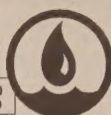
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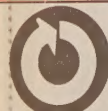
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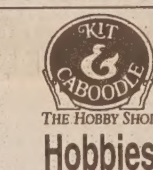


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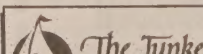
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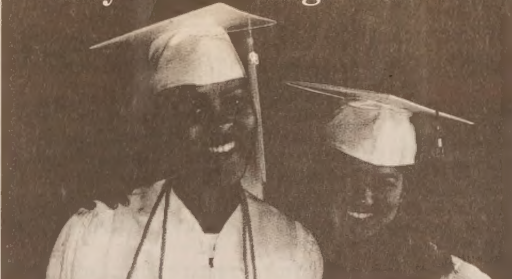
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PRESENTS

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Sunday at Sinai Series

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to East Bay

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Community

Center (MCPC) makes for children. From the kids arrive in the morn- ment they leave in noon, there are lots of things to do. The chil- play with boats in the pool, pour birdseed into the play yard, paint or the slide.

has a morning pre- program for children 5 years old. It also has for toddlers, 18 to 24 months old. There will be information night on 1/27 for families inter- ending out more about

is sixty-five years old and's oldest coopera- school. The school was in 1933 as part of the Berkeley Work Progress program, but became a parent-run coop- years later.

MCPC enjoyed an in a quaint stone on the shores of Lake but the school was in 1990, after officials of Bay Regional Parks determined it was dan-

gerously close to the Hayward fault. After a nomadic existence for four years, the school found a perfect new home - a charming cottage ringed by redwood trees at 5815 Thornhill Drive, right in the heart of Montclair. The cooperative purchased the site in 1997.

MCPC has educated more than 2,500 Oakland children in its 65 years - and trained their parents as well. The school prides itself on helping families learn more than child development. Each day five parents work in the classroom alongside the director Susana Ortega-Sanchez, and the teacher, Marianne Carrasco. The parents also hear lectures on child-related topics and hold regular meetings to discuss goals, set the budget, and determine the school's priorities.

For more information about the school and to attend the parent informational meeting, call Valerie at 531-9715.

Prospect Sierra School's program is based upon an appreciation of the importance of intellectual curiosity and the intrinsic value of learning. It is our conviction that learning is a natural activity, and that when children's interests are sparked both joy and rigor can be blended into the school experience.

Our aim is to foster in learners the confidence that will result in both individual and group achievements. We accomplish this in an atmosphere that promotes cooperation and personal satisfaction in the pursuit of excellence. Students are encouraged to take pleasure in their intellectual, emotional, physical and social growth.

Prospect Sierra's program is designed to help students develop particular dispositions

toward learning. We believe that these dispositions - which include resourcefulness, perseverance, creativity and courage - lead to the development of lifelong learners, based on an awareness of the integration of ideas, knowledge and forms of expression within a framework of the humanities, the arts and the sciences.

The School of the

Madeleine is the K-8 Catholic school for St. Mary Magdalene Parish. We accept students of other faiths and strive to achieve diversity among our students.

The School of the Madeleine provides a comprehensive curriculum at an affordable price. We offer an excellent childcare program. We invite you to visit our web site at www.themadeleine.com

Temple Sinai is located at 28th and Webster Streets in Oakland. The Fine Arts Foundation of Temple Sinai is presenting Sunday at Sinai Series. Three groups of musical performers have been invited for a multi-ethnic afternoon concert. Come on Sunday afternoon, February 7th, for a unique family program of exciting music.

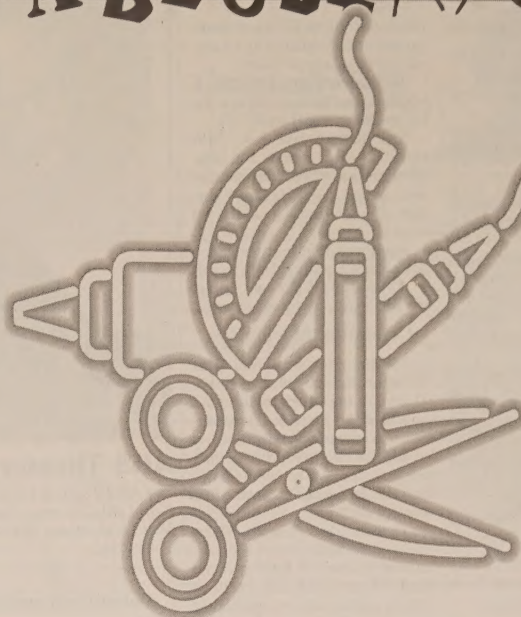
We will have a young musician's group from Castro Valley's Congregational Shir Ami, a choir from Jones Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco, and the chorus from La Peña Cultural Center in Berkeley.

The Shir Ami Group, Kids of Klezmer, will present nineteenth and twentieth century Eastern European Jewish music.

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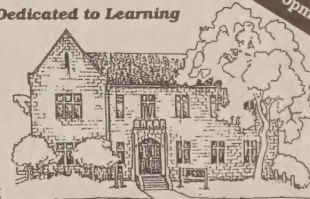
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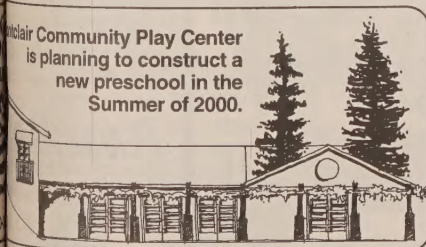
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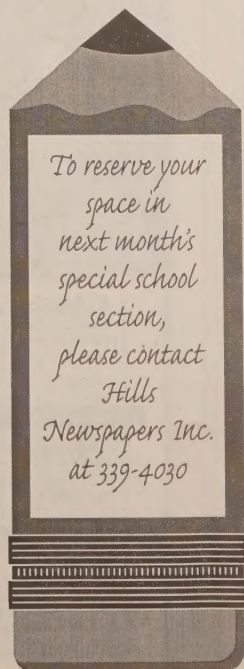
Montclair Community Play Center is planning to construct a new preschool in the Summer of 2000.

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■ In Brief

BART tweaking schedule

BART says train schedules for the system will be slightly altered starting next month on Feb. 8, a Monday.

Ron Rodriguez said the time changes aim to improve rider connections.

He said people who must change platforms in the stations to transfer trains now often miss their connection.

In the early '90s BART began timing trains to minimize the wait for transferring passengers and in May tweaked the schedule when the Dublin/Pleasanton-Daly City line opened.

Rodriguez said that all stations will have the new times posted and new schedules available the first week of February.

"We're fine-tuning it, correcting it and setting up for the San Francisco International Airport opening in 2001," he said.

Rodriguez said train times will also arrive at the same parts of the hour every hour under the new schedule.

Wood stove rebate

The Bay Area Quality Management District says owners of old, pre-EPA certified wood stoves and fireplace inserts can now exchange them for a rebate on a new EPA certified wood stove or natural gas unit.

The district says that in addition to the rebates, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. is offering a \$75

rebate on the first 100 wood stoves turned in and replaced by a natural gas fireplace or insert.

The Great Stove Changeout, which began today, will run for six weeks.

The district says new, EPA certified wood stoves and fireplace units are 75 percent cleaner and natural gas units are 99 percent cleaner than the old wood stoves.

For more information and a list of participating dealers, call 1-888-8STOVES or visit www.woodstove-changeout.org.

Commute information

Local residents can find solutions for their commuting needs at a web site recently redesigned by RIDES for Bay Area Commuters, a rideshare organization.

RIDES' 2-year-old site has been revamped to include updated graphics and enhanced features.

The site now offers the "Commuter Calculator," which determines the cost of driving alone and "Commuter Incentives," which names county-sponsored incentives for people who do not drive alone.

"Lots, Lanes and Links" lists Park and Ride lots, carpool lanes throughout the area and links to other transportation-related sites.

Access the web site at www.rides.org or call (800) 755-POOL.

Collins

Continued from A4

Having come up from the ranks himself, Collins emphasizes the importance of having your employees trust and respect you. "If you can't have the people working for you workin' as a team and working with you, well, you're not going to get anywhere. I never asked my men to do anything that I couldn't do myself, or hadn't already done myself.

"You must have your workers on your side," he continued. "Let them know what's going on, show them your plan. Don't keep

them in the dark. And if they do a good job, give them a bonus at Christmas time."

State of things today

Looking around at the state of things, the retired contractor doesn't much like what he sees. He observed that the problems faced by the city and the nation are many—too many corporate mergers, too many consumers who want something for nothing, too many folks who don't want to work, and—well, just too many people in general.

Yet it's what he calls "the bureaucracy" that really frosts him.



AHS Theater Ensemble presents opera comedy

The AHS Theater Ensemble presents the opera comedy 'Lend Me a Tenor,' by Ken Ludwig, at 8 p.m. Jan. 22, 23, 29 and 30 at the AHS Little Theater. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$7 for adults. Call 524-7601 for more info. The cast, above: Pat Glenn, Chris Carter, Max Livingstone, Daphna Klugman, Jennie Antonacci, Ilana Carter, Ella Samonsky and Jordan MacKay (not pictured: Ryan Takemija).

Valentine's nuptials?

For those romantic souls who have a mind to get married on Valentine's Day, the Alameda County Clerk-Recorder's office announces they'll be open for business on that special day.

Valentine's Day falls on a Sunday this year.

The Clerk-Recorder's office will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 4

p.m. to issue marriage licenses and to perform wedding ceremonies.

Anyone interested should call 272-6789 to make an appointment. The fee for a marriage license is \$79, which includes one certified copy. The fee for a wedding ceremony is \$50.

The office of the County Clerk-Recorder is at 1225 Fallon St., Room 100, in Oakland.

Watch

Continued from A7

on his or her own. There is no magic wand that anyone can wave over us to make them all go away.

The solutions will come when we as a community learn to work together holding each other accountable for delivering the kinds of schools our kids deserve and need. And we can only do that if we respect each other's basic humanity.

Want to receive West County School Watch and other action

alerts on local school issues delivered to your email address? Send the message "Subscribe" to pakglen@aol.com. Glen Price, a member of the WCCUSD school board, the opinions and views expressed in West County School Watch are his own and do not reflect official views or positions of the school board or WCCUSD, unless otherwise noted. Back issues of West County School Watch and other sundry items can be found on the West County School Watch web site: <http://www.igc.org/westcounty/>

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Michael Morgan brings symphony to Richmond for concert series

...Morgan and the
...East Bay Symphony
...in Richmond, for West
...audiences. What a
...idea, and what a
...gift to the people of
...land. Yet it is sad to note
...the public knows
...and how few people

Mecikla Pierce is determined that more people learn to take part in such events. She has been organizing people together whenever she can, to help very talented and talented people like Morgan and to learn of photography and what it is like in the West Coast Costa Rican schools as well as in the American.

More people are learning, and the movement is growing. The use of Mecikla's gathering has an opportunity to help Michael Morgan, and, to help him, I instantly became one of his greatest fans. I became a man who has made a name East Bay Symphony major orchestra. And I became a man who can interest people who have no background in music, and enchant them with his programs.

It is the man who can do the right of the fact that he is astounded when he can't get him. "A conduc-

tor is supposed to be an old European man, and it always amazes them to see a rather young black man, instead." And he laughs, and goes on to speak of his plans and dreams for the partnership of Richmond and the OEBS.

to be my life, and I never looked back," he told me. He added that this wonderful teacher "took me seriously" and it was the best thing that could have happened to a talented youngster. He explained that he loved the idea of "being surrounded by music."



Michael Morgan

"Concerto for Percussion & Orchestra", Morgan said, will "delight all the children, and most of the adults" for it includes almost every percussion instrument there is, and is a joy to watch as well as to hear.

Young performers from schools throughout the area join the regular musicians regularly, and it is they who will play Richard Strauss' "Four Last Songs". The concert will end with Ravel's "La Valse", a "Luxurious portrayal of a time of social glitter and huge hats." The second concert will be a

Community Folk

By Clara Rae Genser

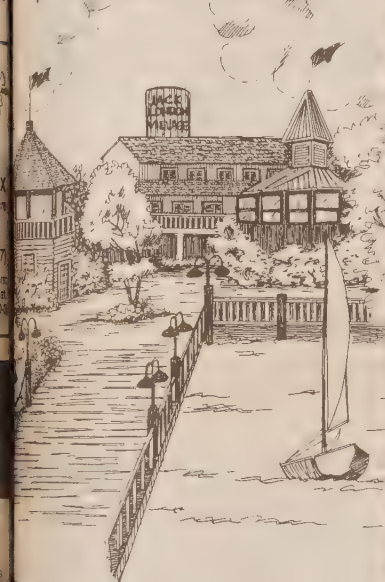


Michael Morgan has been very busy since taking over the OEBS nine years ago. (the orchestra is celebrating its 10th year this year) He has conducted the San Francisco Symphony, and the San Francisco Ballet, especially since the illness of the ballet's beloved conductor. He will conduct the ballet again in March, he said.

He loves working with children, and has made the young artists very much a part of his program, as well as having Young Artist Competitions. And his work in the schools delights him.

enberg, Executive
West Contra
Education Fund,
it was the fund
See FOLK on A14

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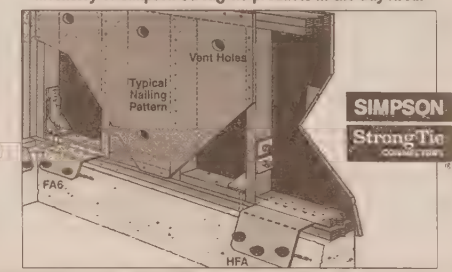
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MATILDA BROWN HOME

By Lois O'Connell, Executive Director

No one ever heard of "Women's Lib" back in 1872 when a group of Oakland women banded together and formed the Ladies' Relief society—more renowned today as the Ladies' Home Society of Oakland, grandmother of Northern California's philanthropic organizations. The impetus for the women came when President Ulysses S. Grant appealed to the "club women of America" to come to the aid

of the Great Chicago Fire's destitute victims. Oakland was then a community of little more than 10,000 residents. There were no street lights, telephones, paved streets or sidewalks. But that didn't deter the determined group of Oakland women who went from door to door pleading the cause. After the Chicago emergency, these women were determined to stay together and help local women, children and babies. Their constitution was

adopted at the first meeting on November 16, 1881. Official birth of the society was noted in 1872 when incorporation papers were filed. Within a few short years, the women were operating The Home for Aged Women, replaced in 1928 by the Home for Our Sisters in the Autumn of Life and renamed the Matilda Brown Home upon the death, in 1935, of the Society's formidable president, Matilda E. Brown. This

redoubtable woman led the Society for 30 consecutive years and never missed a meeting. In addition to the Home for Aged Women, the Ladies' Home Society also provided accommodations for children and infants. Care of children continued until the 1940's when the advent of foster care made institutional settings for children undesirable.

Sunrise To Host Free Lectures

Sunrise Assisted Living is pleased to announce a series of free workshops on various health care topics. The home is located at the corner of Redwood Road at 11889 Skyline Blvd. Class size is limited, so please register early by calling 531-7190.

The series will begin on January 28 at 7:30 pm with "The Many Faces of Dementia," a program designed to inform caregivers, family members and health care

professionals about dementia related issues and to develop a support network for hills residents.

Every month thereafter until the year 2001, Sunrise will host a free lecture. During the first several months of 1999 the schedule will include: Parkinson's Disease (February 25), Alzheimer's (March 31), Recovering from Hip Replacement Surgery (April 28), Vascular Dementia (May

26) and Diabetes (June 30). All talks will be held at 7:30 pm in the Activity Room of Sunrise Assisted Living, 11889 Skyline Blvd., Oakland.

Sunrise has also planned a series entitled, "Practical Matters: A Forum for Planning Your Future" beginning in March 1998. This series will include free talks on issues of interest to anyone who takes the graying of America seriously, such as "What Does

Medicare Really Cover?"; "The Truth About Long Term Care Insurance"; "The ABCs of Estate Planning"; and "How To Plan Your Final Arrangements." Dates and times will be announced soon.

If you have questions or concerns about assisted living or would like to attend any one of these lectures, please call Sunrise Assisted Living at 531-7190.

New Information Sources On Menopause

(NAPS)—Information on a once-taboo subject is making its way into the mainstream. The release of a best-selling book, a Lifetime television program on hormones and a new home video, What Every Woman Should Know About Menopause, is teaching society that menopause is not all pain and suffering.

"It is high time we uncovered the facts and dispelled the myths about a natural and entirely normal phase in a woman's life. Menopause and post menopause should be a time of life to cherish and enjoy," said Alan P. Xenakis, M.D., executive producer of What Every Woman Should Know About Menopause.

Science is also making progress into one of the common effects of menopause—osteoporosis, a disease which causes bone thinning and weakening due to loss of estrogen. According to the National Osteoporosis Foundation, the disease affects more than 20 million women each year, causing 250,000 hip fractures. While many women have been rendered disabled by the disease, physicians are now prescribing estrogen-replacement therapy to many menopausal and postmenopausal women to prevent bone loss.

One of the most important steps a woman can take in easing the effects of menopause is communicating with her

physician, friends and family. According to Sydney Bonnick, M.D., Mount Sinai Hospital, it is crucial that patients not feel inhibited and that they engage in open discussion with their physicians to determine which treatment is best for them.

"You can feel good and live well after menopause," added Dr. Xenakis. "Despite the physical and psychological challenges

menopause may present, it is also a time of liberation, often filled with creative energy and renewed spirit."

Anyone interested in ordering the video What Every Woman Should Know About Menopause, or for a free health video catalog, call Xenejex at 1-800-228-2495.

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The Berkshire Introduces Innovative Program For Seniors

The Berkshire Retirement Community, serving residents for more than 20 years, is proud to announce the beginning of an extensive interior and exterior renovation. The new look will be combined with an innovative new program, known as the Eden Concept. Utilizing the healthy benefits of nature, the Eden Concept uses pet therapy, touch therapy and music therapy, combined with unique landscaping and walking paths to create an environment of

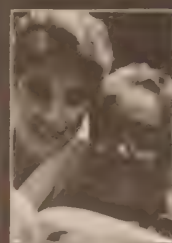
wellness, community involvement and socialization. In addition to a complete selection of assisted living services, The Berkshire will also offer an Alzheimer's and dementia program in their new wing.

The Berkshire is nestled in the heart of Berkeley at 2235 Sacramento Street, and is known for its high standards of personal training and quality assurance. Call 841-4844 for more information or to schedule a tour!

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SENIOR LIVING

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Professional Homecare Companions has several innovative and cost-effective services to meet your homecare needs, whether it's to assist in a loved one's illness or to provide personal care or companionship for a senior or family member with disabilities.

Staff is committed to providing safe, supportive professional care in your home. In addition to meeting physical needs, staff members strive to respect your privacy, and we remain sensitive to your clients with dignity and courtesy.

Professional Homecare Companions is owned and managed by registered nurses, who are dedicated to delivering the highest quality of care for you and your loved ones. We actively train and screen for caring, courteous staff members to work closely with care managers and long distance caregivers. Our senior care management program coordinates professional staff to support all aspects of independent living.

Services provided include 24 hour live-in, 10 hour sleep-over, sunrise/sunset care - 2 morning and 2 evening hours of care, bathing/grooming,

cooking/meal preparation/shopping, laundry/light housekeeping, medication and supervision, transportation to appointments, infant/new mother care, sick child care, geriatric care management, coordination of care, financial management/bill paying.

All staff members are bonded and insured, evaluated for skill level, carefully screened, and supervised by a licensed nurse.

Call us for a free consultation to develop a program that's right for you, and allows you to remain in your home.

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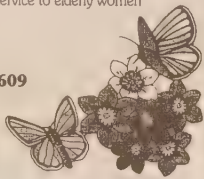
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RECREATION: A Way Of Life At The Altheim

By definition, recreation is what you enjoy and that which enhances your life through relaxation, entertainment and personal development. A person's idea of recreation could be simply reading a book, while someone else may require more physical or mental stimulation. Since individuals taste vary, we respect these differences by giving our residents the programs that appeal to them. One frequent question by a family member is, "does the Altheim provide an activity program?" The answer is

yes! Activities in a California residential facility are a state requirement, we have always been aware of the importance of socialization. Residents have healthier appetites, improved sleeping habits and in some cases require less medication.

Our Activities encompass exercise classes, book reviews, current events, movies, reminiscing groups (discussing the past), arts and crafts and various card games.

Day trips away from the

Community have proven to be a successful change of pace for the residents. No program can be complete without Bingo! Although this game may appear simplistic, it also serves as a tool for a trained staff person in observing the resident's cognitive skills and hand-eye coordination.

As more active people chose to live at The Altheim, group events for the theater, opera, symphony and sports are eagerly anticipated.

In Brief

UC: state funding inadequate

OAKLAND — University of California officials say Gov. Davis' proposed \$2.57 billion 1999-2000 budget for the UC system will not cover expected enrollment growth, keep tuition stable or fund basic programs.

Larry Hershman, UC vice president for budget, said last week that the proposed budget would not cover an expected 3 percent increase in enrollment—about 4,600 students.

Hershman said tuition for state residents, which will not increase for the fifth consecutive year, might have to increase in the future because of the budget cut.

Tuition for students outside the state would increase by 10 percent, or \$940, under the budget.

The governor's proposal cuts \$50 million from what the university system had requested,

cutting funding for program cost increases, salary increases and other costs. UC President Richard Atkinson said a projected \$1 billion state budget shortfall led to the cut in the university budget.

Two special initiatives funded in the proposed UC budget include \$13 million to improve teaching in public schools and \$2.5 million for research on alcohol and drug abuse.

All the \$210 million in capital improvements requested are included in the proposed budget and are covered by Proposition 1A general obligation bonds.

BART tweaking schedule

BART says train schedules for the system will be slightly altered starting next month on Feb. 8, a Monday.

Ron Rodriguez said the time changes aim to improve rider connections. He said people who must change platforms in the stations to transfer trains now often miss

their connection.

In the early '90s BART began timing trains to minimize the wait for transferring passengers and in May tweaked the schedule when the Dublin/Pleasanton-Daly City line opened.

Rodriguez said that all stations will have the new times posted and new schedules available the first week of February.

"We're fine-tuning it, correcting it and setting up for the San Francisco International Airport opening in 2001," he said.

Rodriguez said train times will also arrive at the same parts of the hour every hour under the new schedule.

Wood stove rebate

The Bay Area Quality Management District says owners of old, pre-EPA certified wood stoves and fireplace inserts can now exchange them for a rebate on a new EPA certified wood stove or natural gas unit.

The district says that in addition

to the rebates, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. is offering a \$75 rebate on the first 100 wood stoves turned in and replaced by a natural gas fireplace or insert.

The Great Stove Changeout, which began today, will run for six weeks.

The district says new, EPA certified wood stoves and fireplace units are 75 percent cleaner and natural gas units are 99 percent cleaner than the old wood stoves.

For more information and a list of participating dealers, call 1-888-8STOVES or visit www.woodstove-changeout.org.

Commute information

Local residents can find solutions for their commuting needs at a web site recently redesigned by RIDES for Bay Area Commuters, a rideshare organization.

RIDES' 2-year-old site has been revamped to include updated graphics and enhanced features.

The site now offers the "Commuter Calculator," which determines the cost of driving alone and "Commuter Incentives," which names county-sponsored incentives for people who do not drive alone.

"Lots, Lanes and Links" Park and Ride lots, carpools throughout the area and other transportation-related sites. Access the web site www.rides.org or call (800) POOL.

Folk

Continued from A11

that first started bringing Morgan and the OEBS to Richmond. It is now sponsored by the City of Richmond and private and corporate people.

With prices kept very low (adults \$12.50 a ticket, seniors \$10, Students \$5) especially on Family Day when adults & seniors are \$8 and students only \$2, the concerts are, indeed, for everyone. Everyone is invited to call 620-6792 for further information.

Thank you, Mechila Pierce, calling me about this and giving me an opportunity to chat with Michael Morgan.

Please write to me at 556 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My e-mail is crjens@aol.com.

To place a classified ad call 339-8777.

SENIOR LIVING

A Special Feature of the Advertising Department

St. Paul's Towers Offers Residents a Full Social Calendar and a Healthy Lifestyle

Residents of St. Paul's Towers enjoy carefree, independent retirement living in a beautiful setting overlooking scenic Lake Merritt. As one of the five full Life Care communities owned and operated by the Episcopal Homes Foundation, St. Paul's Towers offers a wide range of resident services that promote a healthy and fulfilling lifestyle.

St. Paul's Towers residents enjoy a full calendar of social events, planned day trips, and art, recreation and fitness classes all year long.

This month, St. Paul's Towers is starting the new year with a variety of artistic programs, including local acting troupe Geoffrey Chaucer and Company's presentation of "Wife Of Bath's Tale," a dramatic reading by Al Geto of W. Somerset Maugham's "The Letter," and a cello and piano concert featuring a classical program by local musicians Roy and Sharon Bogas.

Chauffeured limousine trips, including excursions to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco and the elegant Claremont Hotel in the East Bay hills, are also scheduled during this month.

Exercise classes are offered every morning at St. Paul's Towers, and creative writing, classic literature and current events classes each meet once a week.

St. Paul's Towers residents can also enjoy many recreational and social activities in the surrounding community. Some residents take an easy walk across the street to the Oakland Senior Center on Grand Avenue for additional recreation classes such as Tai Chi Chuan, yoga, ballroom dancing and bridge.

Lake Merritt is an ideal backdrop for invigorating walks, lawn bowling and birdwatching. The Oakland Museum, the Paramount Theatre and Jack London Square as well as the fashionable shopping areas of Piedmont Avenue, Rockridge, Grand Avenue

and Lakeshore, are just minutes away.

When residents return home to St. Paul's Towers, they can enjoy the pleasant atmosphere of the library, art or music rooms, or relax in the privacy of their own comfortable apartment.

St. Paul's Towers residents enjoy three delicious and nutritious meals served daily by courteous and attentive wait staff in St. Paul's Towers' elegant dining room. A selection of entrees, including low-fat and low-sodium items, is available at every meal, and special dietary needs can be accommodated. Weekly housekeeping and linen services, utilities and local phone service are all included in the monthly fee.

Perhaps the most important benefit provided by St.

Paul's Towers is the assurance of comprehensive lifetime medical care as part of each resident's full Life Care agreement. Medical offices are located on site, and St.

Paul's Towers' doctors are on call 24 hours a day. Hospitalization, if required, is always covered. What's more, residents need never worry about bothersome

insurance paperwork, including deductibles and copayments, because it is all taken care of for them by St. Paul's Towers' professional staff.

To learn more about exceptional community living, attend an informational house, or to schedule a personal tour, call Kay Sullivan at (510) 891-8588.



St. Paul's Towers residents enjoy three delicious meals served daily by attentive and amiable staff in the gracious and open dining room.

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- Certified Nurse Aides
- Companion/Sitters
- Housekeepers
- Geriatric Care Manager

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"I NEVER TIRE OF TENDING TO MY TULIPS AND CULTIVATING FRIENDSHIPS AT ST. PAUL'S TOWERS."

—Dr. M. Robert Harris, M.D., Professor Emeritus, UCSF
St. Paul's Towers resident since 1986

Active, carefree, independent retirement living on beautiful Lake Merritt.

As a retired physician, Bob Harris knows first-hand the many benefits of full Life Care living at St. Paul's Towers. He and his fellow residents never need worry about the availability and affordability of quality medical care. Because they know they will receive comprehensive care on site, or hospitalization when needed, as part of their Life Care contract.

A community of friends.

Bob enjoys the company of his friends and neighbors at St. Paul's Towers. He socializes when he

wants to and still enjoys the privacy of his spacious apartment overlooking Lake Merritt.

Bob's passion is gardening and he can be found tending to his flowers daily in the terrace garden just outside St. Paul's Towers' gracious dining room.

Call today to arrange a personal tour.

To become a resident of St. Paul's Towers, you pay a one-time accommodation fee plus a monthly fee for your private apartment, comprehensive lifetime medical care, all meals, weekly housekeeping and many other services. To learn more, call us today at (510) 835-4700 or mail us the coupon below.

ST. PAUL'S TOWERS
(510) 835-4700



Yes, I'd like to know more about St. Paul's Towers.

- ☐ Call me to arrange a personal tour
☐ Please send me more information

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail to: St. Paul's Towers, 100 Bay Place, Oakland, CA 94612

St. Paul's Towers is a non-denominational, not-for-profit community owned and operated by the Episcopal Homes Foundation. License: 011400627

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

OPINION & EDITORIAL



The Journal

A Publication of Hills Newspapers, Inc.

Scott Little
Publisher

Chris Treadway
Editor

"...were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
— Thomas Jefferson, 1787



Member, California Newspaper Publishers Association

Letters to the Editor

Terrific opportunity for Albany

Albany faces a terrific opportunity to show its commitment to the community by passing the up-

parcel tax this June. The parcel tax will help reverse cuts resulting from limited school budgets. The parcel tax gives them a chance to succeed in

is no ceiling on how children can succeed. The parcel tax encourages skills to reach full

ing our children busily in positive learning and activities keeps away from destructive

community we can look for productive citizens. The parcel tax improves crime and welfare

for homeowners, a parcel tax improves real estate value. The parcel tax improves the commitment of the school district. The parcel tax improves the parcel tax improves

for a month for juveniles and athletes in-

Viewpoint

The Plaza — more questions than answers

HARRY DAMON
Albany city councilman

Questions abound. "What's the deal with the Plaza?" Why is it so difficult to get something done about it? Are we going to get a new store at the Plaza? Or are we going to get a new store at the Plaza? Or are we going to get a new store at the Plaza?

almost every answer to the question of what to do about the Plaza. But for how long? Estimates of the value of the Plaza are nearly out of the pin down and the Plaza would probably be worth \$30 million and maybe more. Even if the Plaza were sold, the agency's losses over the years would be enormous. Target, Del Norte and other stores have taken their toll.

We need the resources of the city to build an "entertainment-based" Plaza around a mega-theater. This requires LOTS of parking and parking structures are expensive. After all, the owner's marketing analysis projects the influx of a million people a year! (Don't even ask about the traffic impact, late night car alarms, and importing the Hilltop experiences into El Cerrito.)

The City can access \$6 million of Measure "C" funds to build a parking garage at the Plaza BART Station. The deal is this. If the City will put the \$6 million towards a parking structure on Plaza property, then BART commuters can use it during the day and theater customers can use it

stead of delinquents. Money well invested. Robert and Valerie Cheasty Albany

I find the same service from any of the other young men who work there — James, Tim, Luke, Art, or Joe. Whether I'm asking them to wash the mayonnaise fingerprints on the inside of the window or pulling in to just ask them to check the air in the tires, I find the same consistent courteous service.

Selishly I am a bit reluctant to inform you of this gem of a service station for I would not want to wait in line for the full service I receive there but Mr. Wells did ask for help so know that Henry and crew are there at 1820 Solano.

Robert and Valerie Cheasty
Albany

A gem of a service station

Editor:

In response to Bob Wells' statement that "Plaza Auto Service was the last real service station in the area" — I have to disagree.

I am neither disabled nor elderly but after a long day at work commuting to San Francisco, and before starting my second shift at home as mother to a 2-year-old, I have to share with you one of my pleasures of the day.

I drive into Curt Gould's Chevron Station on Solano in Berkeley and feel totally taken care of.

I can pump my own gas. Having grown up on a potato farm in Northern Maine I am capable but after working as an oncology nurse all day it is so nice to have a nice "How are you this evening?" from Henry as he checks the oil, the air in the tires and washes my dirty windows.

Henry has been offering full service at Gould's Chevron on Solano for 20 years. C.J., the manager and mechanic has been there for 15.

I find the same service from any of the other young men who work there — James, Tim, Luke, Art, or Joe. Whether I'm asking them to wash the mayonnaise fingerprints on the inside of the window or pulling in to just ask them to check the air in the tires, I find the same consistent courteous service.

Selishly I am a bit reluctant to inform you of this gem of a service station for I would not want to wait in line for the full service I receive there but Mr. Wells did ask for help so know that Henry and crew are there at 1820 Solano.

Toby Adelman
Albany

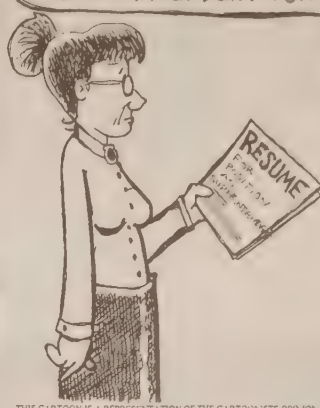
Chance to forgive foreign debt

Editor:

It is not every day we get to fulfill a moral mandate while accomplishing a politically expedient maneuver.

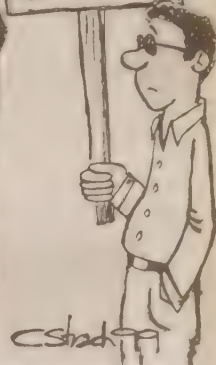
The Book of Leviticus, chapter 25, decrees the Jubilee Year, an event occurring every 50 years, during which one frees one's slaves, restores land on an equitable basis, and forgives debt. Actually the Bible describes detailed conditions under which this may occur. And so should we demand detailed conditions under which this may occur.

I'M SORRY BUT THAT ISN'T THE MOST IMPORTANT QUALIFICATION IN HIRING THE APPROPRIATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR OUR SCHOOLS.



THIS CARTOON IS A REPRESENTATION OF THE CARTOONISTS OPINION ONLY. FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS PLEASE EMAIL: ALTON@HILLS-PUB.COM

WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY



Around Town

By CHRIS TREADWAY

Interactive media right on your front lawn

For interactive media you had to look no further than the "letters to the editor" in last week's Journal.

First came a lament from reader Bob Wells about the decision to stop pumping gasoline by Plaza Auto Service, one of the best and last full service pit stops around. Reader Wells asked for alternative locations where a replacement could be found by those unable to pump their own gas. Our response began "Plaza Auto Service will be missed."

What we meant was the service at the pump, which was a throwback to another era and included checking tire pressure, oil, etc. But it was a bad turn of phrase and we apologize right here.

Alarmed customers began calling the shop the next day with the impression the location, a popular repair shop used by the Albany Police Department among others, had gone out of business altogether, said co-owner John DeVincenzi. "We still have a full service shop," said DeVincenzi, who doesn't hold a grudge. "Stuff happens," he said.

ON THE SAME PAGE, reader Glenn Krell of EC offered the suggestion of taking letters on the Plaza to a more cultured and concise level by expressing thoughts in haiku ("first developed in Japan in the 16th century, (haiku) is a triplet of lines containing five, seven, and five syllables per respective line"). Mr. Krell offered some examples of his own and invited readers to share theirs, so we thought we'd give one a try:

Adobe, racetrack.
Casino, shopping center.
Today? In limbo.

"I hope to see many more in this space," wrote Mr. Krell, who suggested that, "Perhaps parents and teachers could get their kids involved."

IN KEEPING with the interactive theme, we offer space on this page for anyone who has a recommendation about a good full service gas station, or haikus about the Plaza (maybe even haikus about a good full service gas station, for that matter), to submit them to The Journal.

Also reported in last week's issue: Ten months and an estimated \$250,000 after it began, El Cerrito's process to determine an updated General Plan came before a joint City Council and Planning Commission session.

The process, an update required by state law, included several efforts to gain input from a largely disinterested public about what changes they would like to see for the city's blueprint for land use.

The General Plan Process Team held numerous meetings, including a "road show" in neighborhoods around the city, and put in countless hours.

The result: The City Council

voted unanimously to stick with the current plan, adopted in 1975. But while the council vote was unanimous, the sentiment on the process team wasn't. "Very disappointing," was how one member described it. Said one observer, "I could have told them that a year ago and saved them \$250,000. (Acceptable haiku on the general plan will also be considered.)"

AROUND TOWN: The "doomsday clock" at the Richmond Annex Post Office (and other post offices), a digital job that counts the remaining days until the year 2000 down to a tenth of a second, is very disquieting.

And while there was a long line at that office Jan. 9 — out into the lobby — the office was sold out of the one-cent stamps needed to make the old 32-cent stamps valid for the new postage rate that became effective the following day ... An internal fire alarm three Sundays ago brought fire trucks screaming over to the EC Plaza for what was apparently a false alarm. Firefighters nonetheless checked vacant storefronts to be certain.

Colleagues and well-wishers attended a farewell party at the Community Center Jan. 8 for Steve Cutright on his last day as EC fire chief. Cutright was at the helm of the department when it rebuilt its Arlington fire station and also when it entered a service agreement with Kensington, two of the major events in the department's recent history.

Though Cutright says it was not a factor, Emeryville (the city whose safety he now takes charge of) pays better and has a more stable funding flow.

Emeryville in recent years has wooed away former Albany planning director Claudia Cappio and former EC redevelopment head Pat O'Keeffe. Christmas is over, but that doesn't mean the seasonal light displays are.

Inventive residents are coming up with their own reasons to light their front yards.

If you're interested, check out the home on Colusa in EC a couple of blocks north of Fairmont, where the hedges have been shaped like dinosaurs (including a large stegosaurus) and appropriately lit. Then swing down to the 800 block of Pomona for the Valentine's Day light display — a hedge shaped like a heart and outlined in red lights with an arrow in white lights through it ... The EC Chamber of Commerce recently received a letter from someone in Arizona asking for directions to the air show with the Blue Angels and the location of Palomar Observatory.

They really would need directions. Despite the familiar 94530 zip code, they were looking for El Centro.

sweeten it for the City, the owners contend that the amenities associated with an entertainment complex will approximate the "town square" concepts preferred by Sustainable El Cerrito and its followers. Slick, except for a few complications.

First and foremost, an entertainment complex is not what our citizens have asked for. Our citizens have asked for a department store and a department store (Gottshalks) wants to be here. The Plaza owners have successfully squelched that, however.

The second complication is that the Plaza owners aren't satisfied with just the \$6 million in Measure "C" funds. They want more. About \$4 million more!

Interesting questions are: Why should the City access \$6 million in Measure "C" funds and then put another \$4 million on top of it so the owners can deliver something we haven't asked for? And isn't \$10 million a little steep for the few amenities that might pass for anersatz "town square"? There are a lot of other things that kind of money could do. Things we need a lot more than a mega-theater which pays no sales tax but will assuredly require substantial City services. Things like a department store somewhere else in town.

Then there is the prevailing wage complication. About six months ago, a coalition of local labor organizations got a prevailing wage ordinance introduced. Of course these same organizations supported the reelection campaigns of several Agency members, so it should be no surprise that it passed quite easily.

Now it seems the ordinance will add an estimated \$2 million to the Plaza's costs. That's not chump change. The ordinance doesn't apply, however, if the

Agency's contribution is less than \$100,000. Some Agency members may feel obligated to participate in spite of the increased costs. I'm not one of them and doing that could present complications of a very different nature.

At the present time, a citizen's committee, called the CoTW (Committee of the Whole), is rigorously examining the operations of past Redevelopment Agencies. Among their concerns are the accumulated debts, the debt's impact on City finances, and questionable project accounting practices. The CoTW's working draft report suggests a Redevelopment moratorium until some changes are made and some conditions are met (e.g., repaying the debt the Agency owes the City).

The Agency should avoid aggravating the situation by making a dumb move. A dumb move like turning over \$10 million to help the Plaza owners deliver something we haven't asked for and which will probably just fatten the owners' lucrative bottom line anyway.

Indeed, how could we do that and then ask our voters to help us out with a tax increase? The issues are not separable.

So, where are we at the Plaza? As far as I am concerned, we are out of it.

I agreed to hear the Plaza owners one more time, but unless they come forward with something that is convincingly in El Cerrito's best overall interest, something our citizens have asked for, then I see no reason to participate with them at all.

They are now and always have been free to pursue any development they want, as long as it is in keeping with our codes and ordinances. That is what they should do.

The thing has dragged on long enough!

For interactive media you had to look no further than the "letters to the editor" in last week's Journal.

First came a lament from reader Bob Wells about the decision to stop pumping gasoline by Plaza Auto Service, one of the best and last full service pit stops around. Reader Wells asked for alternative locations where a replacement could be found by those unable to pump their own gas. Our response began "Plaza Auto Service will be missed."

What we meant was the service at the pump, which was a throwback to another era and included checking tire pressure, oil, etc. But it was a bad turn of phrase and we apologize right here.

Alarmed customers began calling the shop the next day with the impression the location, a popular repair shop used by the Albany Police Department among others, had gone out of business altogether, said co-owner John DeVincenzi. "We still have a full service shop," said DeVincenzi, who doesn't hold a grudge. "Stuff happens," he said.

ON THE SAME PAGE, reader Glenn Krell of EC offered the suggestion of taking letters on the Plaza to a more cultured and concise level by expressing thoughts in haiku ("first developed in Japan in the 16th century, (haiku) is a triplet of lines containing five, seven, and five syllables per respective line"). Mr. Krell offered some examples of his own and invited readers to share theirs, so we thought we'd give one a try:

Adobe, racetrack.
Casino, shopping center.
Today? In limbo.

"I hope to see many more in this space," wrote Mr. Krell, who suggested that, "Perhaps parents and teachers could get their kids involved."

IN KEEPING with the interactive theme, we offer space on this page for anyone who has a recommendation about a good full service gas station, or haikus about the Plaza (maybe even haikus about a good full service gas station, for that matter), to submit them to The Journal.

Also reported in last week's issue: Ten months and an estimated \$250,000 after it began, El Cerrito's process to determine an updated General Plan came before a joint City Council and Planning Commission session.

The process, an update required by state law, included several efforts to gain input from a largely disinterested public about what changes they would like to see for the city's blueprint for land use.

The General Plan Process Team held numerous meetings, including a "road show" in neighborhoods around the city, and put in countless hours.

The result: The City Council

voted unanimously to stick with the current plan, adopted in 1975. But while the council vote was unanimous, the sentiment on the process team wasn't. "Very disappointing," was how one member described it. Said one observer, "I could have told them that a year ago and saved them \$250,000. (Acceptable haiku on the general plan will also be considered.)"

AROUND TOWN: The "doomsday clock" at the Richmond Annex Post Office (and other post offices), a digital job that counts the remaining days until the year 2000 down to a tenth of a second, is very disquieting.

And while there was a long line at that office Jan. 9 — out into the lobby — the office was sold out of the one-cent stamps needed to make the old 32-cent stamps valid for the new postage rate that became effective the following day ... An internal fire alarm three Sundays ago brought fire trucks screaming over to the EC Plaza for what was apparently a false alarm. Firefighters nonetheless checked vacant storefronts to be certain.

Colleagues and well-wishers attended a farewell party at the Community Center Jan. 8 for Steve Cutright on his last day as EC fire chief. Cutright was at the helm of the department when it rebuilt its Arlington fire station and also when it entered a service agreement with Kensington, two of the major events in the department's recent history.

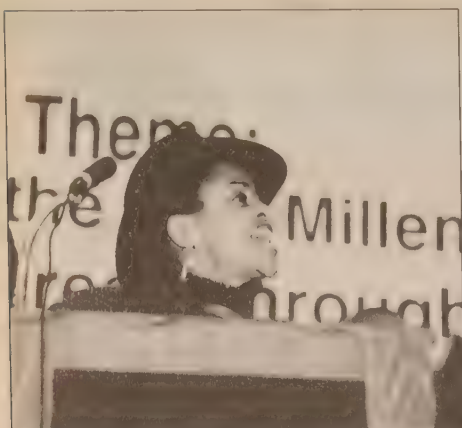
Though Cutright says it was not a factor, Emeryville (the city whose safety he now takes charge of) pays better and has a more stable funding flow.

Emeryville in recent years has wooed away former Albany planning director Claudia Cappio and former EC redevelopment head Pat O'Keeffe. Christmas is over, but that doesn't mean the seasonal light displays are.

Inventive residents are coming up with their own reasons to light their front yards.

If you're interested, check out the home on Colusa in EC a couple of blocks north of Fairmont, where the hedges have been shaped like dinosaurs (including a large stegosaurus) and appropriately lit. Then swing down to the 800 block of Pomona for the Valentine's Day light display — a hedge shaped like a heart and outlined in red lights with an arrow in white lights through it ... The EC Chamber of Commerce recently received a letter from someone in Arizona asking for directions to the air show with the Blue Angels and the location of Palomar Observatory.

They really would need directions. Despite the familiar 94530 zip code, they were looking for El Centro.



Left, a rainy day didn't dampen the spirits of marchers in the parade. Above, the Rev. Cheryl Kirk-Duggan led celebrants in the anthem 'Lift Every Voice and Sing.'



Dream

Continued from front page

there with flashing lights along with Davis and his Silver Shadow

Marchers, including Mayor Gina Brusatori and other members of the City Council, carried signs and banners

As the parade got underway at the Department of Motor Vehicles building on Kearney Street, parade Marshal Patricia Durham told the crowd: "We're going to march through this city and make some noise."

The rain and cold mist did not dampen the spirits of the marchers. The estimated 250 people

attending the parade and celebration were treated to cake and speeches and music and song.

The theme of this year's celebration was "preparing for the millennium — revitalizing the dream through education. Special attention was paid to disease and disease prevention.

On the walls of the center was information about all kinds of diseases including Multiple Sclerosis, AIDS, leukemia, heart disease and high blood pressure.

Awards of appreciation were given to 80-year-old Lucy Wilson who is a founding member of the El Cerrito Human Relations Commission and to Dana Kemp, who

has been a special part of all ten city King Day celebrations

Zyela Allen, a student at Cal State Hayward sang the hymn "Amazing Grace" with remarkable talent and the Treasures of Light, a contemporary gospel group from Hayward, also moved the gathering with their singing.

Tonnette Briggs-Polk used sign-language to present a song that brought people to their feet with wild applause and shouts of praise.

While a song played out "I believe I can fly — I believe I can soar," Briggs-Polk interpreted it with her hands and body movement — putting everything she

had into it.

By the end of the performance, many in the audience had tears in their eyes and it was the kind of thing you wake up thinking about the next morning.

El Cerrito Police Chief Linda Fellers made a short but moving speech about King and the recent murders of police officers in northern California.

She said that police were "truly overwhelmed" by the public outpouring of love and support for the fallen officers.

Fellers pointed out what a "crucial role" law enforcement plays in making Dr. King's ideals a reality.

"No law passed — no court decision handed down — would be effective without the action of law enforcement to carry it out," Fellers said.

"I am proud to serve in a place and time when Dr. King's ideals are shared by members of our law enforcement community," Chief Fellers said in remarks that were interrupted with applause from the audience.

Twenty-seven year-old Dante Allen, who was born with spina bifida and has been a wheelchair for the past four years, made a passionate case for the idea of including the disabled in our definition of diversity. He suggested

wryly that perhaps King's is still a work in progress. People in wheelchairs could sit with others on the disabled Community Center. These steps, but no ramp, onto the in front of the audience.

Allen, who is black, said he has heard it said that people have to be "twice as good to get half as far."

Being disabled or "different," Allen said he often has to be "twice as good" to get through the door.

Martin Luther King did not live to see how his dream turned out, but maybe we "JG" will.

Theatre

Continued from front page

"Nunsense" and "Anything Goes" and "A Few Good Men" are just a few.

The program from Flynn's play "The Orchard Sandwich," is also on the wall.

"I still get a little royalty check," he notes with a smile.

A dress rehearsal Sunday was one of the last for "Ambassador." Players readied their make-up right up to the last minute when 36-year-old Director David Hock yelled out "cast on stage." From the stage, someone yells out "Bonnie" and a quick "I'm coming" returns from the dressing room.

Hock tells people there will be "no stops" in the rehearsal and asks his actors and actresses: "We all read our notes — right?" One of the stage hands tells the actors to be careful with the "caviar" because it's been getting on the stage props and furniture and finally Hock says "let's rock and

roll" and the rehearsal begins.

As the actors and actresses move through the play, Hock sits in the dark and takes notes.

He has a clip board with a little flashlight attached and a whole bunch of yellow post-its.

He notes when somebody makes their entrance a little late — or a little early.

Does so-and-so stand where they're supposed to in a certain scene? Did the "speciality prop" vase break as it is supposed to? Do the costumes work? Are the lights right? Does a critical sight-gag work? Is that table right? Does the action "freeze" on stage when it's supposed to? "The Amorous Ambassador" is a quick-moving farce and a lot of its humor depends on split-second timing.

Hock watches the players intently—you can be sure every nuance of their performance will be reflected on a little yellow post-it.

Asked why he volunteers his time at the CCCT, 18-year-old Stephen Bathurst of Kensington

said he enjoys the work and the people at the theater.

Bathurst is the stage manager and said he acts occasionally in "small pathetic roles." Technical director Peter Fosselius, 28, said that "this theater, even more than others, is a family."

He said he was invited to work at the theater about 10 years ago, "and stayed." Fosselius also likes to act and has played roles at the CCCT and on stages in Berkeley, Pinole and other East Bay locations.

For "Ambassador," Fosselius and Bathurst are behind the scenes, working on the sets, lighting and sound.

"It keeps me off the streets and keeps me out of trouble," Fosselius said.

Of acting and the stage, he said "it's a bug and it gets into your system."

Actor David Lee, who plays the butler in "Ambassador," is a retired history teacher who has had a passion for acting all his life.

The 66-year-old Lee has the craggy face of a character actor and a special knack for different accents and voices.

He lived in England for some time, and when there he played the "American" roles. Now at CCCT he is playing the English butler.

"I've had the bug for a long time," he said about his acting efforts.

"I love to make a character come alive — it brings a real jolt."

"I can't imagine not doing it," said actress Sue Trigg about acting. Trigg, who plays the sexy neighbor and apple of the ambassador's eye, said she has been acting since she was 8 years old.

El Cerritan Robert Knop, who plays an army captain in the play, has been involved with acting since being in a junior-high play.

He says simply "I like to do it." Knop has a doctorate in physics from Cal Tech and works at the Lawrence Berkeley Lab studying

super nova cosmology and "the history of the universe."

After the dress rehearsal, Director Hock reviews his notes and passes out the yellow post-its.

"You need to jump that line," Hock tells one person after the rehearsal.

The players gather on the stage after costumes and make-up are removed.

Some sit on a chair and couch, some lay back on the stage floor. Actors and actresses get yellow reminders to do this or that a little better.

Hock demonstrates how one actor didn't grab an actress correctly in one scene.

David Lee, who plays the butler, said he made two late entrances and Hock tells one player, "you need to be faster — all your lines need to be faster." He tells another not to fall but "trip through the doorway" and reminds everyone "on the freeze lines — really freeze — and then when the line is done, really move — so that the audience gets it."

Hock is empathetic but in his reminders.

"How many times do I tell you — stay in the doorway that the audience can see," he tells one actress.

"This is a repeat note," he says, another, as the post-it is handed.

At the end of the session, says that "from here on out, curtain at eight." He notes they will "fix gaps for laughs and all that stuff," on Thursday in El Cerrito, the show is on.

"The Amorous Ambassador" runs from Jan. through Feb. 27.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Feb. 7 and 21.

Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$6 for theater 18.

For reservations call 9132.

Raises

Continued from front page

to the labor market median." Pokorny said he recently attended a good-by party for a police records supervisor and pointed to the recent resignations of Fire Chief Stephen Cutright and Special Programs Supervisor Renee Hoyer-Nielsen who are leaving for jobs in other cities.

"I would note that all of these are leaving the city of El Cerrito for significant increases in salary," Pokorny told the council.

Councilman Mark Friedman said the cost to the city is more to recruit, hire and train new personnel than the cost of the pay raises. "It's clear the marketplace is speaking and it's speaking to our employees and saying that you could earn more money elsewhere," he said.

Councilwoman Jane Bartke said she does not want El Cerrito to be known again as "the city that trains." She noted that "2 percent isn't much" and would give "recognition" to city staff. Councilman Norman La Force praised El Cerrito's management staff and said "we need to make sure we compensate these people adequately."

Mayor Gina Brusatori said the city has "very fine employees" and "some outstanding employees" and that the city may consider some type of "pay for performance" plan in the future.

But some people attending last week's meeting spoke against the raises.

"I don't think we can afford the pay raise that's being proposed at this time as modest as it may sound," Brad Cafel told the council. Cafel said that although he

agrees with the city policy to pay median salaries, he urged the council to "freeze all wages and benefits" that are not subject to union contract increases.

Cafel said there is a "conflict" between the city policy of paying the median salary and the city policy not to lay off staff. He said that "overall city wages and benefits" in the current fiscal year are projected to increase 10 percent over those in fiscal year 1997/98 and are expected to increase more than 7 percent next fiscal year.

Cafel also noted that city staff receive pay step increases and that there is a \$1.5 million deficit projected for fiscal year 1999/2000. "We need to get the budget in balance before we can give raises," he said.

Rosemary and Peter Loubal spoke against raises for senior

management staff. "We have to treat the city like a business," Rosemary Loubal said, and if the city cannot afford to do things such as "fix the potholes" then it should not grant raises or benefit increases "no matter how much we'd like to."

Husband Peter said he agreed and that the Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole "will deal with this topic as soon as possible."

He also said wages and raises should be tied to job performance and, alluding to the forecasted budget deficit, asked the council: "Does it benefit anybody to get a raise and then to be laid off because we can't afford them?"

Financial Review Team Chairman Steve Magyary said the council might want to postpone approval until the FRT reviews the "city side" of the budget.

Magyary said there are questions about the size of the future deficit and the city's financial status. FRT member George Amberg asked for clarification about several details of the proposed raises. He said that the total cost increase was "quite modest" and didn't object to it, but he also wanted to know the full amount of the increases — including additional benefits costs.

According to a staff report, salary ranges are set according to "both external and internal comparisons." The "external" comparisons come from the Ralph Andersen Compensation Report. The Andersen Report, commissioned by El Cerrito two years ago, collects data about what city staffers make in other, comparable, East Bay cities.

The "internal" comparisons look at salary differentials be-

tween workers in the city's personnel classification system. City does not want the top of a subordinate to get too close to the top pay of his or her immediate supervisor.

The Bay Area Consumer Index is also considered and is currently increasing at 2.4 percent annually. According to staff report, 15 of the 17 management positions in El Cerrito are below the labor market "compensation." Pokorny said the total cost (including benefits) to implement the raises was just under \$19,000 this fiscal year.

Councilman Larry Dam questions about the efficacy of the Andersen report and the data behind the report. But he also described the raises as a "modest increase" and with his colleagues to app-

Grant

Continued from front page

develop an "important relationship" with an officer on campus and might turn to him when they had concerns or questions about the law.

More discipline needed?

"Recently there have been a couple of law suits filed against our schools," Councilman Allan Maris said. "Teachers are (at the high school) to teach. They do a certain amount of discipline but as much as we can do to help them with discipline problems, the better off education is going to be in our schools."

"I don't want to mislead council," Murdo replied. "The purpose of this officer is not to become involved with the administrative side of disciplinary issues. If those issues cross the line into criminal behavior, that's a different set of criteria."

By unanimous vote, the council recommended that Murdo pursue the COPS in School grant.

sue the COPS in School grant.

The battle for the bulb

In other business Tuesday, work session on the Albany landfill, which will be incorporated into the Eastshore State Park (see story on page A3) was held prior to the regularly scheduled council meeting.

According to Ann Ritzma, assistant city administrator, more than 150 people currently live on the bulb. Most of the residents are men, she said, though there are women and families living there as well.

Ritzma suggested there are "growing problems" at the bulb with trash and waste disposal, as well as reports about roving packs of dogs, crime, and drug usage — issues the council needs to address.

She presented members with several alternatives to deal with such issues. They ranged from forbidding camping or campfires altogether and essentially clear-

ing the area of squatters to providing some resources in an effort to help the homeless get counseling and connected with social services.

Doug Deitrich, a resident of the bulb for over a year, said a lot of the problems on the bulb would be quickly solved if the city placed a trash dumpster and portable toilet nearby. "It's hard to cart away trash when all we have are wheel-barrels and shopping carts," he said.

Surprised to learn the city estimated 150 people live on the bulb, Deitrich said "at most there are 50," the majority of whom are "trying to keep the place clean and not bother anyone."

Referring to city report suggesting that discarded hypodermic needles are a growing problem on the bulb, Deitrich said that in the year he lived there, he's only seen one. The landfill resident also said drug problems on the bulb are about the same as anywhere that "could potentially hap-

pen anywhere in the country today."

Though Deitrich said he knows people will eventually be forced off the landfill, he pleaded for the council "to at least give us some time before outlawing homes there. We have nowhere else to go."

Oakland resident Russ Johnson said he has a college-educated daughter living on the bulb. "This was not part of our plan," he said, restraining his emotions as he described how she was a drug addict living in a shack. Johnson, fighting back tears, said he often wishes the police would arrest his daughter and "mandate" her into a program. "This was not the way things were supposed to be," he said.

Albany resident Jean Sira has walked her dog at the bulb for over five years and declared "We've never had any trouble at the landfill." She said most of the homeless "try to clean up after

themselves," and that "I've always felt very safe there." Sira closed by pleading with the council "to act as kindly" as they can when dealing with the issue.

Alex McElree offered the services of a program called "Operation Dignity," originally established to assist homeless veterans of the Vietnam war but now committed to helping all poor people. The program helps provide medical and psychological counseling to the homeless, though its primary goal is to keep

them dry, warm and fed.

Other service providers and homeless advocates suggested city needed to look at "the picture," which they said is a "serious lack of affordable housing" in the bay area. Things are going to get worse, they suggested that evicting people on the bulb is only to exasperate an already dire situation.

The council decided to hold the workshop on the bulb at its next meeting.

Toddler Lapsit Program at EC Lib

Registration begins today for the second series of the Infant-Toddler Lapsit Program will be offered again at the El Cerrito Branch of the Contra Costa County Library on 6510 Stockton Ave. This program is for parents and their very young children from birth through 2-1/2 years old.

Simple stories, rhymes and songs will be used during the minute program to help develop such pre-reading skills as listening, language development and a deep love of books. A desire to learn to read will be asked to attend with young children.

Details: 526-7512.

El Cerrito boys hoops King of the hill Gauchos' win over St. Joe's has team in lead for league title

By Peter Mentor

There was any doubt that El Cerrito could keep up with the Gauchos at St. Joseph in boys basketball, that doubt is gone. El Cerrito dominated St. Joe's in the first three quarters, then for a 63-57 victory Friday night to take over first place in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

The Gauchos beat the Pilots in the season during the Classic tournament, but El Cerrito was without star player Ferguson and backup player.

El Cerrito thought before the game, but the Gauchos' victory was a surprise. El Cerrito would avenge that loss, though this league game was being held at El Cerrito.

The Gauchos quickly cut the lead to 6-0 in the first quarter, but El Cerrito scored a monster basket by Kansas-bound Drew Gooden, before the Gauchos responded.

El Cerrito cut the lead in half in the second quarter, but El Cerrito's 6-foot-9 forward went high for a layup and crushing the ball into the hole for another basket.

El Cerrito took a 22-13 lead into the second quarter, and that lead would grow to as high as 19 points, by Gooden (20 points) and a 3-pointer that was not, to go up 38-19 in the first half.

Over, right? Not yet. El Cerrito sat down with 16 rebounds, two fouls and a block. With the Gauchos, St. Joseph ran off

six unanswered points in one minute to end the first half down 38-25.

The two teams traded baskets in the third quarter, with the Gauchos taking a slight 15-12 edge for a 53-37 lead going in the final frame.

The heart and soul of St. Joseph shined in the fourth quarter. When any other team would have called it quits, the Pilots responded brilliantly by pressuring the Gauchos to gain opportunities.

Ferguson went wild, scoring 11 of his 21 points, while teammate Justin Davis added five of his 19 points to fuel a comeback.

Ferguson hit one basket, then came back on a fast break for another that cut the lead to single digits, 59-51.

Davis was fouled with 49 seconds remaining and he hit just one of two from the line and the lead was seven.

Two seconds later El Cerrito's Emonte Jernigan was bringing the ball up the court was fouled by Davis, who picked up his fifth and had to sit.

Davis had been the leading scorer for the Pilots through three quarters with his slashing and dashing in the paint and impressive rebounding, but now they would have to do this without him.

Gooden got the crowd pumped by waving his hands upward to get them cheering. Jernigan hit both his free throws and the lead was back to nine.

As hope diminished for the Pilots, it was Ferguson to the rescue. See BOYS on B2



El Cerrito's Jeremiah King soars to the basket over St. Joe's Kevin Butler in the Gauchos 63-57 win over the Pilots Friday.

Mark DuFrane

Gauchos stay hot after a cold start

By Peter Mentor

El Cerrito followed up its impressive win over St. Joseph with a 68-44 victory over Piedmont High Tuesday night.

The two wins kept El Cerrito perfect in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League at 3-0 and boosted the team's overall record to 14-2.

The Gauchos didn't have their usual stuff in the first quarter against Piedmont, most likely because of the emotional drain from the game Friday.

The Highlanders stayed right with the Gauchos in the first quarter, trailing only 21-1.

Things started rolling along for El Cerrito when the team put a little more emphasis on defense, holding the Highlanders to just 16 points over that span. El Cerrito went on a 15-8 run in the second quarter for a 36-25 at half.

The third quarter was more of the same with the Gauchos scoring 16 points and limiting the Highlanders to just eight points again.

"We didn't play well in the first quarter," said El Cerrito coach Chris Huber. "We didn't play with a lot of enthusiasm. Then we started to get a little more serious. We started to play a full-court defense and we got a lot more transition baskets."

El Cerrito star Andrew Gooden was a little surprised by Piedmont's 6-9 center John Westphal, who scored six points in the first quarter. Westphal hit the first bucket of the game for Piedmont on a long jumper over Gooden.

"He caught Drew off guard that he could hit from outside," said Huber of Westphal. "He got three baskets in that first quarter." See GAUCHOS on B2

Yellowjackets fall short of MVP Shootout

By Phil Jensen

After giving instructions to his team in a third-quarter timeout, the MVP Sports Shootout at the High School Saturday, girls basketball head coach Nakamura turned the crowd behind his team, smiled and said "game."

At the packed gym, Nakamura's sentimentality was only rivaled by a game, the Yellowjackets to Palisades 70-66.

In a glance, it was evident this game would be a tight contest. The Palisades (13-4) found a couple of other scoring options in the fourth quarter, however. Itricia Ewells scored nine points, including the final four points of the game. Leilani Estavan scored five points.

Maybe the key statistic for the Yellowjackets (10-5) was their free-throw shooting. Berkeley only converted six of its 18 free throws, including only five of its 11 attempts in the second half.

"That's the game right there," Nakamura said. The score seesawed for most of the first quarter, but a free throw by Hollans started a 15-3 Yellowjacket run that gave Berkeley a 26-14 lead with 4:03 left in the first half.

Hollans scored five points and Nicole Brown added four points in the spurt. But Berkeley would not enjoy a lead like that again.

"When you have the nails in the coffin, you have to nail it shut," Nakamura said. "We need to play consistent ball the whole game."

After three quarters, Berkeley held a shaky 48-46 lead. Palisades caught up with the Yellowjackets at 53-all with 5:35 to go, but a jump shot by Brown gave Berkeley back the lead. A jumper from the free throw line by Coriel Davis increased Berkeley's advantage to 57-54 with 4:47 left.

The Lady Dolphins pushed the lead to 61-54 in the fourth quarter. See GIRLS on B2



Joanna Phanda

St. Mary's freshman phenom Stephon McGrew.

McGrew makes soccer look easy

By Donovan Corrigan

The debate has raged for years—what is the hardest thing to do in sports. Many experts believe hitting a baseball traveling at 90 mph from 56 feet away is the most difficult task to accomplish. Basketball players think of the slam dunk as a benchmark. And anybody who has been behind the wheel of a car knows how hard it must be to make a hairpin turn at speeds of more than 200 mph.

Yet, according to Saint Mary's High School soccer standout Stephon McGrew, getting the ball past the goalkeeper and scoring a goal is the most difficult feat in sports.

You couldn't tell that from watching the McGrew perform on the field for the Panthers. This season McGrew has made scoring look about as easy as catching trout in the well-stocked San Pablo Reservoir.

The freshman has scored a team-leading four goals in three games to help St. Mary's to a 2-0-1 record.

McGrew is the total package

on the soccer field and seems to possess all the skills necessary to be a solid player on the national level.

"He's a great player and a great kid, and is about as close to a perfect player as you can get," said Panthers coach Teo Madison. "Stephon (McGrew) is the prototypical scorer. He has all the qualities—speed, strength, quickness, vision, field awareness and instinct."

McGrew, who sports a 3.45 grade point average, said that being in the game mentally, focusing on an assignment, interacting with teammates and knowing the opponent is an important part of the game.

"You have to prepare mentally and know your surroundings, and think quick on your feet to be a scorer," McGrew said. "The best way to score is knowing where the keeper is positioned and how he plays the ball."

"If you learn the goalie's style and weaknesses, you can get the ball past him and that's the scorer's job."

McGrew has definitely got

See MCGREW on B2

Cougars boys soccer fired up after slow start

By Jelani Harper

After a somewhat slow start, Albany's boys soccer (3-1-1) is back on track and ready to make a run for the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League title.

The Cougars went undefeated in two outings last week. They beat up on St. Elizabeth 4-0 at home during last Wednesday's game before tying

Kennedy 1-1 on the road last Friday.

Albany's record of late is a far cry from how it started the season. The Cougars opened up ACCAL action in early December with a resounding 3-1 loss to Richmond. A week later, they were able to salvage a 2-2 draw with powerhouse St. Mary's.

"The loss to Richmond was tough because it was our first game of the year and we

weren't prepared," explained first year coach Don McGuire. "We arrived 10 minutes before the game, we had no time to warm up, and we had to play one of the top two teams in the league."

After taking their lumps, the Cougars put together back-to-back wins over Alameda and Encinal, and were going full steam when they met up with St. Elizabeth.

Striker Christian Banda was an inspiration in this one; the senior assisted on each goal and scored the final goal himself.

From the moment the opening whistle blew there was no doubt as to which team would win. Banda set up junior Garrett Pock for the first score in the opening minute of play, before finding midfielder Alan

See SOCCER on B2

Depleted Panthers find a way to win

By Bill Kruissink

The St. Mary's Panthers came into their league game against Encinal limping and short-handed.

Down to just seven players due to illness, disciplinary problems and grades, the Panthers had to dig a little deeper than usual if they were to beat the quick and aggressive Jets.

So that's what they did. Playing in Berkeley, the Panthers (3-0, 11-7) broke open a close game, outscoring the Jets 18-6 in the third quarter, to pull out a 61-48 league win.

"What hurt us is we only have seven players," Panthers coach Jose Caraballo said. "That was tough for the kids. Some guys we put in roles they don't normally play. But we made some adjustments at halftime and did a better job. We played a little harder. I think that was the difference."

Whatever the cause, the Jets (0-2, 12-5) began chipping away at a big Panthers' lead — 25-14 with 4:44 to go in the second quarter — to close to within two, 28-26, at the half. Four different Jets hit field goals and another two added free throws during the chase.

"We weren't playing smart," said St. Mary's guard James Harris, who led all scorers with 22 points. "But more than anything, we were getting a little winded out there because we only have seven players. But we were making mistakes."

For his part, Encinal coach Felix Douglas wasn't buying the opposition line, his team having lost to St. Mary's in the preseason by 38 points.

"That's the same seven guys we played in the (Livermore) tournament," Douglas said.

"There was no difference there."

Remarkably, all of the Panthers' 11 second-quarter points came on free throws — one point at a time. Kellen Dixon knocked down all six of his free throws, while Harris went 3-for-4 from the line.

But those free throws (St. Mary's wound up going 22-for-33 from the line, Encinal just 7-for-13) kept the Panthers in the game long enough for the team to catch its breath.

Coming out on fire in the second half, the Panthers' Lorenzo Alexander, Dashawn Freeman (12 points), Dixon (11 points) and Harris all rushed in for field goals (Freeman nailed St. Mary's only 3-pointer of the game) as St. Mary's bounded into a 46-30 lead.

The Panthers finished out the quarter on an 11-2 run.

"No matter how shorthanded we were, we had to get through this," Harris said. "So we went out there and played harder defense. We wanted it more."

"We rebounded and made sure we got the ball out on the break," Caraballo said. "That was very helpful to us."

The Panthers' lead reached 20 after Freeman twisted in for two with 6:19 to go in the game.

It was still at 20, 55-35, following free throws by Harris (Harris made 8 of 10 free throws on the night) 90 seconds later.

The lead proved too much for Encinal to overcome and St. Mary's improved to 3-0 in the Powerhouse Division of the Alameda-Contra Costa Athletic League standings.

Alexander had 13 rebounds and Dixon grabbed eight boards.

Dixon had three steals each.

Brown shines for El Cerrito girls hoops

By Scott Strain

PIEDMONT - If all of Darrell Jobe's girls played like Tyeshia Brown, then the El Cerrito girls basketball team would be in good hands.

Unfortunately, they don't and while Brown played a spectacular game, the Gauchos lost to Piedmont, 47-44, Tuesday night in the Highlanders' gym.

It was their second loss in three games in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League — they lost to St. Joseph-Notre Dame 59-52 before defeating Kennedy-Richmond 69-34.

El Cerrito (6-7, 1-2) tried against Piedmont (10-6, 2-2), but the team's fortunes closely followed those of Brown, a sophomore guard.

When Brown scored, the Gauchos did well, when she didn't, they didn't. For example, Brown didn't score in the first quarter, and Piedmont took a 7-2 lead.

Brown scored nine points in

the second period, and El Cerrito came back to take a 17-15 lead at the half. She scored four of her team's eight points in the third quarter and the Highlanders regained the lead at 31-25.

Brown finally got some scoring support from Tiffany Shepard (six points) in the fourth quarter and El Cerrito almost pulled off a comeback victory.

Piedmont held a 38-31 lead with 3:36 left in the fourth quarter when Brown and her teammates made their move. Brown hit two baskets and Shepard one to pull the Gauchos to within 38-37.

Piedmont, though, responded with baskets from Ali Flato and Courtney Gault, with Gault's short turnaround jumper making the score 42-37 with 1:21 left.

Brown then hit the shot of the night for El Cerrito, burying a long 3-pointer to cut the lead to 42-40 with 1:08 left. On Piedmont's next possession,

Brown stole the ball and went through a gaggle of Highlander players and scored on a layup to tie the game at 42-42 with a minute left.

Piedmont failed to score on its next trip down the floor, but Piedmont's Kerri Roemer stole a pass from an El Cerrito player, scored and then was fouled with 27 seconds left. Roemer completed the three-point play by hitting the foul shot for a 45-42 lead.

Kristen Ikeda fouled Piedmont's Marisa Lindquist with 19 seconds left and Lindquist hit two free throws for the 47-42 advantage.

El Cerrito, though, had one last chance. Brown was deliberately fouled by Roemer and sank two of three free throws to cut the lead to 47-44 with eight seconds left.

One last chance

Piedmont threw the ball way and the Gauchos got the ball

out of bounds on their side of the court with one second left. El Cerrito was looking for Brown to take the final shot, but so was Piedmont. The Highlanders overplayed the inbound pass and El Cerrito was unable to get off a final shot.

Brown finished with 19 points and earned the veteran's praise of Jobe.

"She went out there and gave 110, 120 percent," said Jobe. "If she continues to improve, she will have a future and I don't just mean high school. She can be a player in college or even a pro. I wish I had more players like her."

Brown had 10 points in her loss to St. Joseph-Notre Dame and 19 against Kennedy-Richmond, so her game is coming on. Her effort against Piedmont was her best of the season.

It just wasn't enough Tuesday night.

Boys

Continued from B1

rescue. The 6-4 senior forward canned a 3-pointer with 31 seconds left and the lead was six.

K.J. Rosales fouled Jernigan, who missed the front end of the one-and-one. St. Joseph got the rebound and Ferguson put up a three at the other end, hitting nothing but air.

Enter Seth Jones, who collected the errant ball and hit from three feet. That cut the lead to four and the Pilots called timeout with 12 seconds.

St. Joseph had just finished a 20-8 run and was now officially back in this one. Pilots coach Gordon Johnson rallied his players for the final assault. Both teams had the ending

choreographed. St. Joe's fouled immediately as only two seconds ticked off the clock.

Knowing this would happen, El Cerrito put the ball in Jernigan's hands. The 6-3 senior guard hit both shots, to finish the night 4 for 5 at the line.

St. Joseph had one more shot that hit the rim and was picked up by El Cerrito forward Jovan Harris as the game ended.

The two teams' top scorers ended up fairly close in the final tally. Gooden's game-high 20 points and Jernigan's 19 gave that duo 39, while Ferguson had 21 points and Davis 19 for a combined 40.

EC had eight points from Harris and six each from Jeremiah King and Ronnie Lang for a total 20 points, while Rosales, Jones and Dave Silva had four

Gauchos

Continued from B1

quarter and that was it."

Gooden didn't particularly like Westphal scoring on him and he shut the PHS big man down for the rest of the game.

Gooden finished with a game-high 26 points and 10 rebounds with two blocked

shots. He was 10-of-11 shooting from the field and his 6-of-11 from the line.

Jovan Harris scored 19 points and Emonte Jernigan had 10 points, both scoring their points from the floor.

Huber was impressed with the play of senior point guard Jeremiah King, who scored eight points and distributed the ball extremely well.

McGrew

Continued from B1

ten the job done.

The 14-year-old had two goals in a 2-2 tie with Albany and produced the winning goals in wins over Alameda-Contra Costa Athletic League powers Richmond and American.

Though just a freshman, McGrew is a veteran of the soccer wars. He spent the last two summers as a member of the Olympic Development Program, which features the best under-16 soccer players in Northern California.

The ODP plays a four-game schedule in late summer against the best youth programs in the nation. McGrew scored four goals during each year he played in the program and established himself as one of the top players in the area. McGrew further honed his skills playing in the Mountain View Club League in Southern California for four years and in the Jack London Club League the past two seasons.

McGrew said the time spent playing in the ODP and club leagues has helped to improve his skills.

"Playing in those environments and having some success has given me a lot of confidence in my ability," said McGrew. "It was cool to play in the ODP, and I learned a lot from coach Chuck Rhoades and Edgar Sukumatsumu."

"I had a lot of fun, and the experience has helped me have success at the varsity level as a freshman."

"Stephon has showed strong leadership skills and has played better than any freshman, I have ever been around," said Madison. "He's a team player, a hard worker and shows his leadership by finding the net."

McGrew simply wants to be one of the guys.

"I just want to fit in and contribute to the team winning and being successful," said McGrew. "I just play my game and let things happen in the flow of the game and don't force things or try to do too much."

"I let things happen naturally and prove it (hype) on the field each game."

McGrew wants to be an architect after college and has already narrowed his choice of schools to Stanford and Wake Forest.

That is down the road a ways. For now McGrew will have to focus on an ACCAL crown.

Girls

Continued from B1

ahead for good with 3:21 left on a layin by Ewells that made the score 60-59.

Palisades scored three more points before a five-foot shot by Davis narrowed Palisades lead to 63-61. Then Estavan hit her big three-pointer from the left corner.

Berkeley, behind the leadership of Hollans, fought back to tie the score at 66 on a free throw by Hollans.

But Ewells responded with a layin with 1:09 left, then scored on a layin on Palisades' next possession with 33 seconds.

The Yellowjackets couldn't score on their final possession, and Palisades quickly left Lafayette with a victory.

Both Davis and 6-0 sophomore Robin Roberson had 10 points.

Soccer

Continued from B1

Bernales for the second tally.

In the second half, Banda worked his way in from a cor-

ner kick to loft a well placed cross for stopper Adam Phillips' header goal.

Minutes later Phillips would return the favor as he found Banda open for the Cougars' final score.

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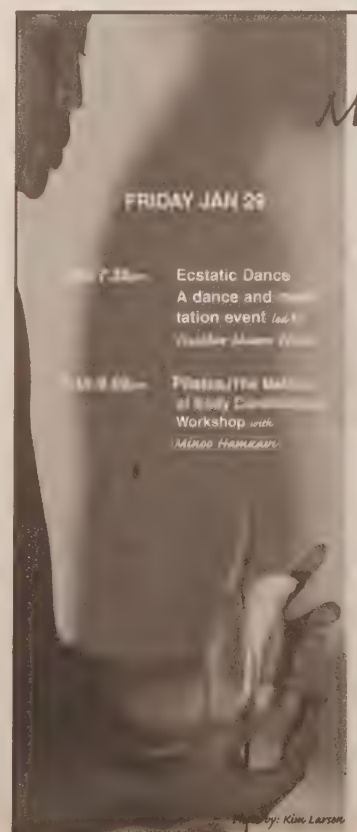
Meditation with Pamela McKernan
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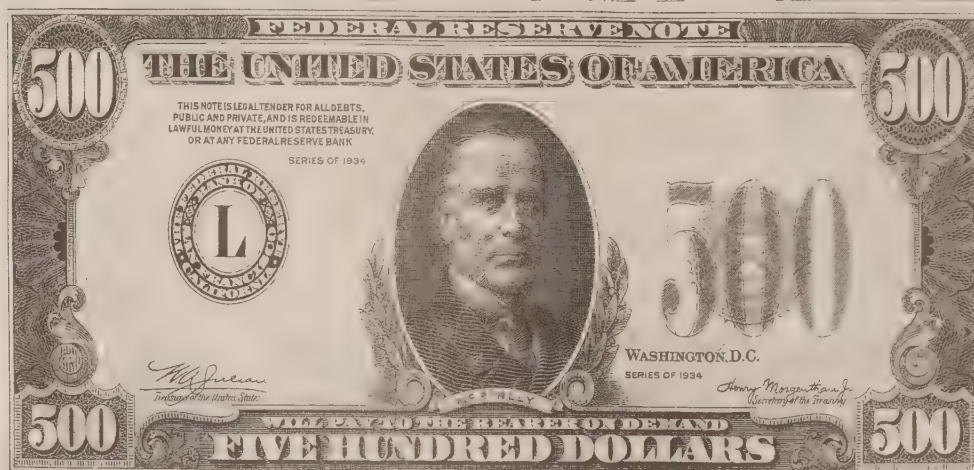
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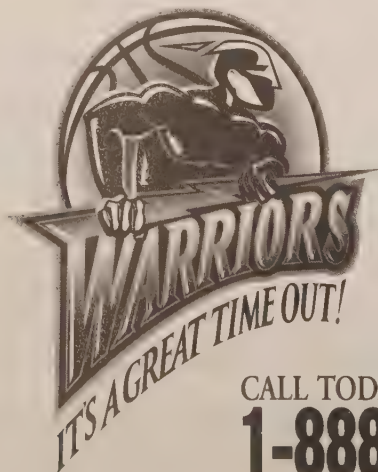
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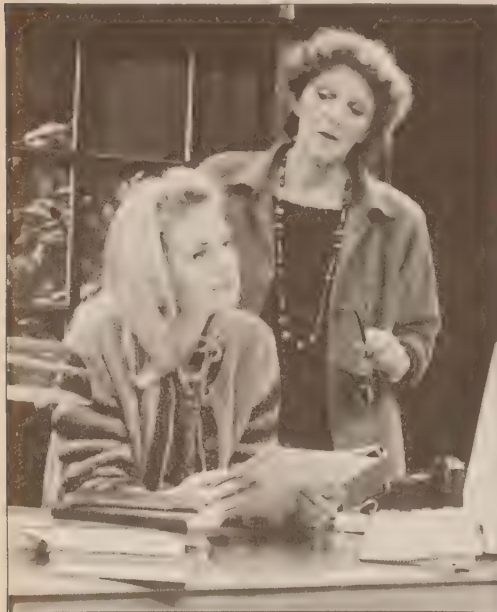
'Collected Stories' at Berkeley Rep

The **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** presents Donald Margulies' drama "Collected Stories," directed by **Richard Seyd** and featuring **Cristine McMurdo-Wallis** and **Jennifer Tighe**.

The play, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, "depicts a complex mentor/protégé relationship between two writers. ... As the younger writer begins to experience her own success, the relationship shifts irrevocably when she uses a story from (her mentor's) past as the subject of her first novel."

The production opened Wednesday. It runs through March 5 with performances at 8 p.m. Tuesdays to Saturdays, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays, with matinees on some Thursdays and Saturdays, at 2025 Addison St., Berkeley.

Tickets are \$34.50 to \$45. 845-4700.



Ken Friedman

Jennifer Tighe (seated) plays the protégé of a well-known writer, played by Cristine McMurdo-Wallis, in "Collected Stories," which opened Wednesday at the Berkeley Rep.



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Admission is a mere \$5.00. You must be 21 years or older for weekend matinees. Slip off your shoes, stretch out, chat with friends or strangers and enjoy the informal atmosphere. The couches go fast, so get there early.

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Gods & Monsters.....9:45 p.m.

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Mighty Joe Young.....3:00 p.m.
American History X.....7:00 p.m.
Psycho.....9:00 p.m.
Gods & Monsters.....9:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 24
Gods & Monsters.....3:00 p.m.
Psycho.....3:30 p.m.
American History X.....7:00 p.m.
Psycho.....9:00 p.m.
Gods & Monsters.....9:45 p.m.

MONDAY, JAN. 25
American History X.....7:00 p.m.
Psycho.....9:00 p.m.
Gods & Monsters.....9:45 p.m.

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Black Rep presents 'Unfinished Women'

The **Black Repertory Group** presents Aishah Rahman's "Unfinished Women Cry in No Man's Land While a Bird Dies in a Gilded Cage," directed by **Marilyn Evans**. The play is the "dramatic story of the longings of unwed teenage mothers and the last days of saxophonist Charlie Parker Jr., and how their lives parallel one very important day." Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, through Feb. 21, at the Black Repertory Group theater, 3201 Adeline Ave., Berkeley. Tickets are \$12 (\$8 students, \$3 seniors). 652-2120.

Ben Shahn exhibit at Magnes Museum

The Judah L. Magnes Museum, the Jewish Museum of the West, presents the exhibition "Ben Shahn: Selections from the Stephen Lee Teller Collection." It features 70 graphic works and 90 items of ephemera. It continues through Feb. 14. The museum is at 2911 Russell St., Berkeley. 549-6950.

Last Planet presents Wallace Shawn play

The **Last Planet Theatre** presents Wallace Shawn's "Marie and Bruce," "a dark, twisted marriage play about a couple whose cruelty to one another knows no bounds ... funny, shocking, beautiful and gruesome." **John Wilkins** directs. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursdays to Saturdays, and at 7 p.m. Sundays, through Feb. 7, at the Adeline Street Theater, 3280 Adeline St., Berkeley. Tickets are \$10 (\$8 seniors/students). 841-7649.

Baroque woodwinds in St. Alban's

The Baroque music ensemble **Flauti Diversi** presents "Virtuoso Music for Woodwinds from the Courts of Europe." The concert, featuring music by Vivaldi, Quantz, C.P.E. Bach et al. is at 8 p.m. Saturday at St. Alban's Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany. Tickets are \$16 (\$13 seniors/students/Albany residents). (415) 337-7553.

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'Amorous Ambassador' at CCCT

The **Contra Costa Civic Theatre** production of "The Amorous Ambassador" opens tomorrow and runs through Feb. 27. The production features **Mercy Dossdos**, **Dory Ehrlich**, **Robert David Lee**, **Joe Lenbetter**, **Bonni Miller**, **Phil Reed** and **Trigg**. Tickets are \$10 (\$6 youth). Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, plus two Sunday matinees — at 2 p.m. Feb. 7 and 21. 524-9132. CCCT is at 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito.

Juggling, comedy for kids in Albany

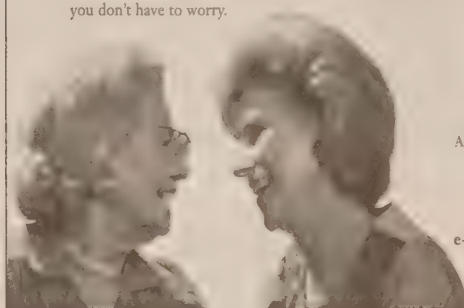
Jay the Juggler balances pins, knives, bowling balls and beer chickens while riding a 6-foot unicycle. Joining Jay is **Adam Gottstein**, whose sneeze-horn and silliness has been recting his every mistake. The shows are targeted for through 10 and their parents. The performance, presented by **Buddy Club**, takes place at the Albany Community Center day from 11 a.m. to noon; \$6 (free if under 2 years). 652-SHUG.

MusicSources presents Bach vocal music

Soprano **Karol Steadman** performs the music of J.S. Bach accompanied by harpsichordist **Gilbert Martinez**, Baroque **Gonzalo Ruiz** and Baroque cellist **Tanya Tomkins**, at 8 p.m. Sunday at MusicSources, 1000 The Alameda, Berkeley. Admission is \$18 (\$15 seniors/students). 528-1685.

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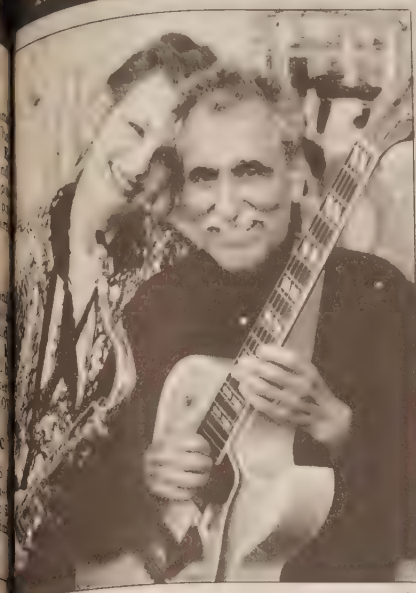
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Henry Diltz

Mad & Eddie Duran at Yoshi's

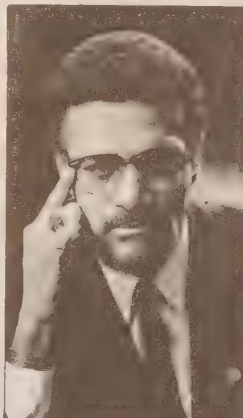
Rock duo Mad & Eddie Duran will appear with a six-piece band, Smith Dobson Jr. on vibes, Marty Wehner on trombone, Mad Duran on sax and flutes, Eddie Duran on guitar, Paul Van Wageningen on bass and Paul Van Wageningen on drums, plus poet/jazz writer Elaine Cohen) at Yoshi's Jazz Club at 8 p.m. Monday. The music mixes jazz improvisation, original compositions, Latin, Brazilian, bop, avant-garde, and a bit of spoken word. Yoshi's is at 510 Embarcadero West (Jack London Square), Oakland. 238-9200.

Benefit for J.J. Malone at ELI's

Remembering Troyce Key: A Benefit for J.J. Malone" takes place at ELI's Mile High Club on Monday from 6 p.m. to midnight. Performing are members of J.J. Malone's Crossroads Blues Band: Chris Vega, Chris Millar, Mike Malone, Scott Rabino, Jeff Barrows, Clarence Barrows, Younger Key and Jason Kane. Also performing are Ron Thompson, Frankie Lee, Freddie Rhodes, Scott Duncan, Jimmy McCracklin, Sonny Rhodes, Mamou and Steve Gannon. J.J. Malone has been battling cancer for most of 1998. Admission is \$10. The club is at 3629 Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. 655-6661.

ET play imagines meeting between Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr.

The Oakland Ensemble presents Jeff Stetson's "The Meeting," depicting a imagined meeting between Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. in a suite in a Harlem hotel where Malcolm X has been staying. The play is directed by Michael Lange. Gloria Weintraub directs "The Meeting" last weekend; the final performances are at 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 7 p.m. on Sunday, at the Alice Arts Center, 1428 Alice St., Oakland. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 student/seniors) with discounts for groups of 10. 763-7774 or 4661.



Michael Lange plays Malcolm X in 'The Meeting'

Brandenburg

Concertos, cantatas
The American Bach Soloists perform Bach's Brandenburg Concertos 1 and 2 and Cantata 146 and 70 at 8 p.m. on Jan. 24, at the First Congregational Church, Berkeley. Soloists are soprano Jennifer Ellis, contralto Dana Marsh, tenor (and music director) Jeffrey Jones, bass William Sharp, recorder player Aldo Abreu, and harpsichordist John Thiessen. \$32, \$25 and \$18. (415) 392-4400.

Shakespeare's 'Julius Caesar' updated
Part of the Civil Rights Movement

The African-American Shakespeare Company in co-production with Mills College, presents "Julius Caesar." Set in the United States in 1964-65, in the era of the Black Panther Party, the play features Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. The show will be presented on Jan. 21, 22, 23, 29 and 30. Tickets are \$15. Mills College is at 5000 MacArthur Blvd. Oakland. (415) 333-1918

Organ music by Bach, Schumann et al.

Richard Szeremany, organist, plays works by Mulet, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Franck, Fletcher, Roberts, and Reubke at 2 p.m. Sunday at the First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, Channing Way at Dana. Free. 848-6242.

Sheldon Brown Group at the Jazzschool

Sheldon Brown Group performs at the Jazzschool/LaNote, 1430 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Woodwind player Sheldon Brown leads a group consisting of pianist Jeff Chiment, bassist David Wilcox, drummer Alan Hall and guitarist Dave MacArthur. \$12 (\$10 student/seniors). The school is at 2377 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 845-5373.

Itzhak Perlman at Zellerbach

Itzhak Perlman performs at 3 p.m. Sunday at UC's Zellerbach Hall as part of the Cal Performances series. Tickets are \$60 and \$65. 642-9988.

Mills College 'Coffee Cantata' at Mills College

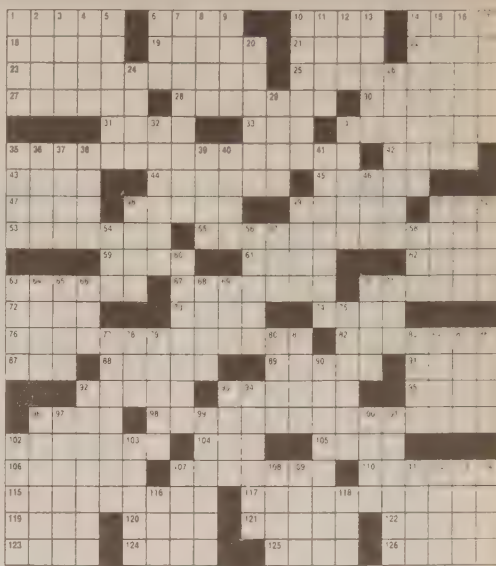
Mills College Music Department presents "Treasures of the Coffee Cantata" on Sunday at 4 p.m. in the college's Concert Hall — featuring "Coffee Cantata" and works by Telemann, Handel and J.S. Bach. Free. Mills College is at 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 4661.

New York Times Magazine Puzzle

FOLLOWING ORDERS

BY CATHY MILLHAUSER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Where Hawthorne wrote "The Scarlet Letter"
6 Verve
10 Crackers
14 Bacillus shapes
18 Blazing
19 Food fish, in scientific names
21 "My Brother Sam" (Grateful Dead song)
22 The wrong stuff
23 Pecking order?
25 Money order?
27 Dynamo's pivot
28 Team coached by Bud Grant for 17 years
30 Coordinated, in a way
31 Function
33 Rare sports result
34 Bad reception?
35 Alphabetical order?
43 On the main kind
44 Red shade
45 Disconnected
47 Skewer
48 Che cohort
49 Reverent
50 Abbr. concerning the holy or "potholy"
- 53 Difficult position
55 Battering order?
59 Waxed
61 Split
62 Dozer's spot
63 Cry at an old-fashioned battle
67 Tick off
70 Headed north, by Northwest
72 Interlaken's river
73 Snowfall
74 Agitate
76 Back order?
82 Sagebrush State native
87 Kind of cozy
88 Bubbling on the stove
89 Tree thicket
91 Moth with translucent spots on its wings
92 Red flag
93 It's deadly for Bardot
95 Skip
96 Aura
98 Benedictine order?
102 They hold cones
104 Had a cone
105 Not on g.
106 Regard
107 Neighbor of the larynx
110 Impresario
115 Side order?
117 Suborder?
119 Poop out
- 120 It's often on the house
121 Pioneer in calculus
122 Levels
123 Returned MS.
124 Many ages
125 Encouraging supply
126 Squirreled
DOWN
1 New York merchant Horace
2 Throw — (go ballistic)
3 One of the Simpsons
4 Word with while
5 Computer buyer's concern
6 Atty.'s title
7 Like some vents
8 Et
9 Guitar part
10 Impaired
11 One way to buy an item
12 McDonald's lid?
13 Tree with tiny red berries
14 Cultivated
15 Cheviots and merinos
16 Strip (of)
17 One-way transports?
20 Japanese pooches
24 Switch suffix
26 Anedemocratic belief
- 29 Mozart's age, when he wrote his Fifth Symphony
32 DuPont brand
34 "The fault, dear Brutus, — in our stars" — in maybe
35 Beer-brewing mixture
36 Analogy words
37 Shipshape
38 Cotton ball applications
39 P.M. counterpart
40 Countryside cylinder
41 Proverbial loser
46 Decimal starter
48 Meter reading
49 Wrestling falls
50 Serial killer?
51 Protein source
52 Pull a switch
54 Word with drop or roll
56 El Greco's homeland
57 Football Hall-of-Famer Strong
58 Suffix with computer
60 Glen Campbell title city
63 Shed
64 Crime motivation
65 Suburbia, e.g.
66 Public image, for short
68 Winter air
69 Eclipse, for one
70 Make tracks



- 71 O.T. book
75 Line of clothing
77 Equipped a la raptors
78 U.K. award
79 Melodious Mel
80 Opera opener
81 Horse color
83 Big baseball surname
84 Half-witted
- 85 Dye source
86 Hoopster Archibald
90 Cluster in Taurus
92 Property recipient, at law
93 Greek salad ingredient
94 Old Hollywood star with a mustache
- 96 Hearth goddess
97 Essential oils
98 Black and Valentine
100 Rooftop fixture
101 Water rompers
102 Leans (on)
103 Stroll
107 Certain Fed
108 Time
- 109 Cockney greeting
111 Latin learner's verb
112 One of the five chief crises of the Philistines
113 Regards
114 Hebrew "beginning"
116 — hoo
118 Venture

Goings On About Town

Submissions to Goings On About Town must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Classes

Jan. 27
Figure Drawing: Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. through March 17; Carol Brighton, instructor; Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. in Live Oak Park; 644-6893; \$125.

Vista College
International Business classes
Jan. 21, 7 p.m.; "International Marketing: 20 Barrows Hall; \$36

Literature
Through May 24; "American Fiction: 1945 to the Present" with Dr. Yehudit Goldfarb; \$36
All classes located on the UC-Berkeley campus; 841-8860.

Ongoing
YWCA Health and Community Education; drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

City of El Cerrito Classes
Through Jan. 28, 4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.; Group Keyboard for Ages Eight Through Eleven; bring an electric keyboard to class and learn the basics of musical keyboard; \$20 residents.

Through Jan. 30; all ages; Introduction to Cartooning
Through Jan. 26; ages three and a half to five, 4:15 p.m. - 5 p.m.; six to eight years old 5 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Children's Dance; learn jazz and tap steps and combinations.

Through Jan. 27; Movement Circles for Twos and Threes and Fours and Fives; explore music as only preschoolers can, through dance, songs and multicultural rhythms; \$25 residents.
7007 Mooser Lane, El Cerrito; Judy

Bellotti, 215-4371 for information.

Community

North Berkeley Senior Center
Jan. 21, 1 p.m.; video movie "Shall We Dance?"; 1:15 p.m.; "Strong Women: A Literary Film Video Series" with Helen Wheeler

Jan. 22, 1 p.m.; video opera "Tosca" Jan. 25, 1:15 p.m.; Barbara Oliver Discusses the play "A Flea In Her Ear" 1901 Hearst St.; 644-6107 for information.

Kensington 55+ Activity Center
Jan. 21, 11 a.m.; Wee/Louise Patrick presents Qigong Movement.

Jan. 28, 11 a.m.; The Grizzly Peak Trio; Great Books "The Moon and Sixpence" by Somerset Maugham.

Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., 526-9146 for weekly schedule or information.

Ongoing
Stroke Support Group for Stroke survivors, their families and friends. No advance reservations required. Meets the first Tuesday of each month 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Also on Jan. 5, from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Reducing your Risk for a Second Stroke. And Feb. 2, Questions and Answers with Bradley Wrubel M.D., Neurologist.

The Women's Cancer Resource Center Friends and Family Support Group offers a group for emotional support for family and friends of women with cancer every 1st and 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Call 255-0891 before your first meeting. WCRF Grief Group meets Tuesdays, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for 8 weekly sessions. Call 548-3272 or 649-9818. Stress Reduction / Relaxation Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All groups meet at 3023 Shattuck.

The University of California Botanical Garden is seeking volunteer

docents to lead tours of the Garden for children's and adults' groups. Training begins in January; call 643-1924 for information.

New Beginnings - a chemical dependency treatment program at Doctors Medical Center in Pinole - offers community support group information, free assessments, education and counselors who can talk about drug and alcohol dependency treatment and prevention. Call 724-1520 for information.

Parents Need Support. Your care can make a difference. Become a volunteer Telephone Hotline Counselor at Parental Stress Service, Inc. Weekdays, one 4 hour shift per week. Free 30 hour pre-service training starts Mid-November. Call Shay Black, 893-9230, ext. 510.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King middle school, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-In-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9715.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley, serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

Ongoing
BACA Members' Showcase; Wednesdays through Sundays, noon to 5 p.m.; through Feb. 21; over 200 regional and national artists; 1275 Walnut St.; 644-6893.

Remembering Ben Shah: Selections from the Stephen Lee Taller

Collection; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.; through Feb. 14; special exhibit, tour and conversation with Frances Pohl, professor of art history at Pomona College and Robert Conway, co-curator of the exhibit; Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley; 549-6950.

Albany Arts Committee celebrates the Foyer Gallery with a retrospective exhibit running through Feb. 22. The purpose is to highlight Albany Artists. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For further information, call 524-9283.

Lectures and workshops

Jan. 22
"The Clausen House": 11:15 a.m.; Peter Brooks, director of The Clausen House Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave.; 848-3533 or 845-4725 for reservations and information; lecture and coffee; \$1, lunch \$10.75 or \$12.25

Jan. 24
Bodh Gaya Prayers for Peace Lecture Series; the second of three talks in January; explore different aspects of the 10th annual World Peace Ceremony to be held Jan. 18-26 in Bodh Gaya, India. Nyinmya Institute, 1815 Highland Place, Berkeley. 843-6812

Jan. 28
"It's Later Than You Think: The Origins of Ancient Egypt's Calendars and their Modern Legacy"; 7:30 p.m.; given by Dr. Ronald Wells, presented by the American Research Center in Egypt, Northern California Chapter, and UC-Berkeley's Center for Middle Eastern Studies and Department of Near Eastern Studies; U.C. campus, Kroeber Hall, Room 160; 527-9746; free, but donations accepted.

Turning Point Career Center
Jan. 21, 6 - 7 p.m.; "Assessment for Career Changers - Schein's Career Anchors & Cops Interest Inventory"; \$15.

Jan. 26; noon - 1 p.m.; "Careers for People who Like Puzzles: Linguistics, Software, Tax & Other Financial Consulting Areas" with Lynn Friedman, Ph.D.; \$3. Career Center Book Club 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.; "Me, Myself and I, Inc." by Shirley Porter, Keith Porter and Christine Bennett; \$10.

Jan. 28; 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.; "Jobs that Make a Difference in Cultural Institutions"; \$10; 6 - 7 p.m.; "Assessment for Career Changers - Skill Web Card Deck"; \$15.

YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 848-6370.

Literary Events

Jan. 28
"Strong Women — Writers and Heroes of American Literature": 1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. every Thursday; free course in the Berkeley Adult School Older Adults Program; Helen Rippey Wheeler, instructor; North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Way; 549-2970 after 9 a.m.

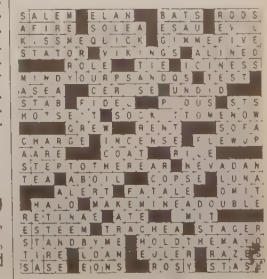
Rise and Fall of the Roman Poets with James Keller, a ten week series examining the world of ancient Rome through the words of its great poets. Every Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. through Feb. 3. Suggested donation of \$2.50 for residents, \$3 for non residents. "The Open House Senior Center, 6500 Stockton Ave. Call 215-4340.

See GOINGS ON B6



Afashionados on display

Sticks Fine Art Gallery, 1579B Solano Ave. will present the "Afashionados Group Show," opening Jan. 29 and featuring the works of artists Peter Allen, Steve Barbak, Chris Baird, Richard Berger, Claudia Bernardi, Pamela Blotner, Ed Burnam, Helena Dalrymple, Barbara deGroot, Phillip Dow, Richard Kamler, William Keith, Kathy Oh, Laurie Polster, Sharon Siskin, Jane Skafte, Lawson Smith, Tony Speirs, Francis Spencer, Susan Steinman, Larry Thomas, Andree S. Thompson, and Josefa Vaughan. The opening reception is Jan. 29. Details: 526-6603.



More Arts and Entertainment

Harper Lee's 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Actors Ensemble of Berkeley

The **Actors Ensemble of Berkeley** presents Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird" beginning tomorrow and continuing through Feb. 20 at the Live Oak Theater, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, with a single Thursday performance at 8 p.m. Feb. 18. Tickets are \$9. 528-5620.



Scout Finch (Zoe Statman-Weil), left, Atticus Finch (John Tiedemann) and Jem Finch (Sam Black) in AEB's production of "To Kill a Mockingbird," which opens tomorrow at the Live Oak Theatre.

Goings

Continued from B5
Meetings

Jan. 26
Professional Environmental Marketing Organization Luncheon Meeting: 11:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; the speaker is Jot Condie, director of environmental quality for the California Manufacturer's Association; held at Hs. Lordship's Restaurant, Berkeley; (415) 979-4787; \$35
Ongoing
Epilepsy Center of Northern California Support Group: 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. every fourth Wednesday; self-help group for people with epilepsy, their family and friends; 893-6272.
Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berke-

ley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters: meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 643-7645.

Music/Dance

Ongoing
Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

UC-Berkeley Botanical Garden: looking for volunteers, training begins in January. Call Nancy Swearingen, 643-1924, for an application and more information. 200 Centennial Dr., Berkeley.

Religion

Jan. 24
Sycamore Congregational Church: 9:45 a.m.; "Pleading God," a sermon with liturgist Debra Sakauye; 1111 Navellier St., El Cerrito; 525-0727

Theater, Dance & Film

Jan. 22
"To Kill a Mockingbird": 8 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays through Feb. 20, one Thursday performance Feb. 18; Actors Ensemble of Berkeley's 42nd season, directed by John Dahlien; 528-5620 for reservations; \$9.

Temescal Improv Festival this weekend

The Temescal Arts Center sponsors the Temescal Improv Festival this weekend, featuring spontaneity in music, dance and theater.

Tomorrow the lineup is **Closer to Carbon** (a string trio of Norman Rutherford, Andrew Kushin and Peter Whitehead), **Victoria Pizzinat & Green** (vocal explorations), **Pronto Theatre** (spontaneous movement, sound and language), the **Micaela Gardner Ensemble** (dance improv with a twist), **Etiquette** (trio of women using music, props and movement) and **Nia Kuumba** (experimental music trio).

On Saturday the lineup is **Wutama** (tribe a women play-

ing original music with ethnic roots), **Miguel Fraconi** (comedian, singer, dancer, poet, composer/musician), **Angela Bausch** and **Brenton Chong** (comedian/improvisation duet), **Dennis Cooper** and the **Jazz Improv Group**, **Pronto Theatre**, and **James Ryder** and **Sten Rydstrom** (Action Theatre duet). Performances begin at 8 p.m. at the Temescal Arts Center, 511 48th St. (between Telegraph and Shattuck), Oakland. Tickets are \$8. 923-1074.

OEB Symphony season opens Jan. 29

The **Oakland East Bay Symphony** opens its 10th season today, Jan. 29. Music director **Michael Morgan** leads a program consisting of Adolphus Hailstork's "Celebration," Joseph Schwantner's Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra (with percussionist Ross Williams), Ravel's "La Valse," and Richard Strauss' "Four Last Songs" with soprano Alison Buchanan. The concert is at 8 p.m. Jan. 29, at the Paramount Theatre, 20 Broadway. Call 465-6400 or 762-2277 for reservations or more information.

Auditions and Contests

Contra Costa Civic Theatre

'All in the Timing' — Contra Costa Civic Theatre will hold open auditions for David Ives' "All in the Timing," on Sunday at 6 p.m. Two men and two women are needed. Prepare a short comedic monologue. No appointments. No pay. Performances are on weekends March 5 to 14.

'Gypsy' — CCCT will hold open auditions for "Gypsy" on Monday and Tuesday. Strong vocalists and dancers are needed. Male and female. Come with a song prepared. Actors under 16 come on Monday, all others on Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Weeknight rehearsals begin Feb. 1. Performances weekends are April 16 through May 29.

The theatre is at 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 524-6654.

Children's Fairyland needs actors 8 to 10

Children's Fairyland will hold auditions Saturday and Sunday for children ages 8 to 10 who like to sing, act and dance. The auditions are for the 1999 performance calendar. Rehearsals begin in February; performances run from April through December. This year's

shows are "The Wizard of Oz," the African tale "Anansi the Spider," and the Indian epic "Hanuman the Monkey King."

The 30 children chosen will receive free theater-arts training, as well as the opportunity to perform shows inside and outside the park, make public appearances and serve as official Fairyland ambassadors throughout 1999. They will perform every third weekend and holidays. In addition, they may appear in parades and other community events.

To register for an audition or for more details, call 452-2259 or leave a message at 238-6878, extension 3.

Piedmont Children's Choir auditions

The Piedmont Children's Choir has openings for boys and girls, ages 7 to 10. Auditions are this Saturday, by appointment only. Call 547-4441 for an appointment. The auditions, held in groups, are non-competitive and require no special skills or music, just an interest in singing. Children from all over the Bay Area participate.

Rehearsals are held weekly from September to June. Members pay tuition and uniform fees; some scholarships are available.

The choirs are organized into training levels and performance

levels. The top performing group travels to international festivals each summer.

Women's chorus needs lead singers

A women's chorus in Berkeley is looking for lead singers for its spring performance. The chorus meets Wednesday 7:30 p.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Cross, 1744 University.

Contact Tosca at 769-0111 for details.

Photography competition on Jewish themes

The Judah L. Magnes Museum has announced first annual Richard Nagler Photography Competition. 1999 competition welcomes entries representing a wide range of Jewish themes, in all black and white or color.

Awards include cash prize, museum and web exhibition. The deadline for entries is March 15. For detailed entry instructions, send an e-mail to photo@aol.com or send an addressed stamped envelope to Nagler Photo Competition, Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley 94705.

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Sandra
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p. 2

Real Estate



Open Home Guide inside

The Montclairion
The Piedmonter
Berkeley Voice
The Journal
January 21-22, 1999
C-1

South Campus area built on genius

is part one of two parts

area of Berkeley just east of Telegraph Avenue, the University of California campus and Derby Square district rich in cultural, historical and architectural history, as the South Campus neighborhood, this area became famous in the 1960s as the setting for student demonstrations.

recently, Telegraph Avenue became notorious as the site of brawls and assaults on students and tourists. News of such incidents led to protests by merchants, longtime residents and many students in the South Campus area that the Berkeley crack down on the district to improve the street crime here is overdue.

and the headlines of the week, the South Campus neighborhood has been revered by Berkeley residents as a place of tree-lined streets full of old homes and historic landmarks.

ough it may be hard for outsiders to envision this area as a place to walk along the residential streets near frenetic Telegraph Avenue will give some of the serene lifestyle of

Owning a piece of history



Mark Wilson

the campus community at the turn of the century.

A scattering of Victorian Era homes remains in the South Campus area, left from the years when its earliest settlers came to take advantage of living near the newly chartered university.

But it was not until the early twentieth century that this neighborhood began to develop, when prominent professors hired the most renowned Bay Area architects to design their homes.

The early 1900s in the South Campus area saw the construction of some of the finest designs of such First Bay Tradition masters as Bernard Maybeck, Julia Morgan, Willis Polk and Walter Ratcliff Jr.

The best place to begin a walk-



Staff photo

The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley, is a Maybeck masterpiece in need of renovation.

ing tour of this illustrious neighborhood is with Maybeck's most famous work, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley, at the northeast corner of Dwight Way and Bowditch Street.

Undeniably Bernard Maybeck's masterpiece, Berkeley's lovely

church has to be seen to be fully appreciated.

The church was designed in 1910 and completed in 1912, to replace an earlier structure on this site that had burned down. The congregation chose Maybeck to design their new church because

of his great reputation and because they believed he could give them a church that was fire-proof and attractive.

The finished product shows that he succeeded.

See Wilson on page C-2

Freddie Mac, NAACP join forces for home ownership

McLEAN, VA -- Freddie Mac announced this week that it entered into a broad national initiative with the NAACP to increase minority home ownership in America by expanding community-based outreach, credit counseling and marketing efforts, and improving the availability of flexible, low-down payment mortgage products.

A goal of the alliance, the largest commitment Freddie Mac has ever made to boost minority home ownership, is to help increase the home ownership rate among African-American households.

The rate stands at about 46 percent, 20 percent less than the national rate.

The initiative has been in development for more than a year and leverages the strengths of the two national organizations.

It also marks an unparalleled history of achievement in economic development.

Freddie Mac is working to make home ownership more affordable by accessing worldwide capital

See Ownership on page C-2

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- 1965 WRENN** - View! Upper Oakmore - Wonderful 3+BD traditional in desirable Oakmore. Great view, hardwood floors, plus room and garden. **TERRY KULKA...\$359,000**
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- 4022 RUSTING AVE**.....OAKLAND.....2+BD.....\$224,500.....VICKY FAULK
- 1069 MAPLE**.....LINCOLN HTS.....2BD/1BA.....\$209,000.....RACHEL BALLER

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Marilyn Bremser

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WILSON: Architects breathed life into visions of grandeur

Continued from C-1

Six stylistic elements are incorporated harmoniously into the design of this church: Gothic, Japanese, Renaissance, Romanesque, Mediterranean, and Modern Industrial. These motifs blend together so well that the effect is transcendently beautiful.

The church's Sunday school wing was designed in 1927 by Henry Gutterson, a friend and admirer of Maybeck. It is the only religious structure in the East Bay with flying buttresses.

One fine example of Maybeck's ability to integrate such disparate design components is the asbestos paneling along the upper walls of the church's exterior. Maybeck decided to disguise this paneling with red diamond-shaped ornaments at the corners, which make them blend in perfectly with the aesthetic character of the overall design.

The first Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley, is on both the National Register of Historic Places as well as list of officially designated City of Berkeley Landmarks.

Highly trained docents lead tours of the church every Sunday at 12:15 p.m. Simply ring the bell at the front door on Dwight Way to begin a free tour.

Across the street, at 2600 Dwight Way at Hillgass Avenue, stands Hobart Hall, an interesting Period Revival building designed by Maybeck's friend and former student, Julia Morgan.

Hobart Hall is a dignified, red brick and sandstone Tudor-Revival style edifice. Morgan designed this multi-storied administrative building for the American Baptist Seminary of the West in 1918, and it was completed in 1920.

Hobart Hall has one of the few genuine cloisters in the East Bay, just through the stone archway facing Dwight Way.

A fine example of a transitional Queen Anne house with Colonial

Revival features stands at 2524 Dwight Way. This 1891 late Victorian Era home was designed for a man named Stewart by Albert Pissis, who later designed the campus home of the university president, as well as the Hibernia Bank Building in downtown San Francisco.

A block away, at 2509 Haste St., stands one of the oldest and

This raised-basement cottage is a superb example of a small "working man's" Italianate, with round arched windows, a pedimented roofline, and curved brackets along the cornice.

most remarkable survivors of the pioneer period in the South Campus area. The Wooley House was built for a boilermaker from Oakland in 1876, only three years after the first classes were held on the U.C. Berkeley campus, and two years before Berkeley was incorporated.

It originally stood on Telegraph Avenue, and was moved to its current lot a few years after the turn of the century.

This raised-basement cottage is a superb example of a small "working man's" Italianate, with round arched windows, a pedimented roofline, and curved brackets along the cornice.

Along the east end of Bowditch Street, between Haste and Channing streets, stands the original buildings of the old Anna

Head Girl's School. The oldest section, at the northeast corner, was designed in 1892 by Edgar S. Fisher, and it was one of the first buildings in the East Bay to use brown shingles on its exterior.

It has a large gambrel, or Dutch roof, and fine Colonial Revival detailing. The later wing of the Anna Head Girl's School, along Haste Street, was designed in 1923 by Walter Ratcliff Jr.

This auditorium addition matches the original wing's quality, materials, and stylistic detail.

The University now owns these buildings, and houses a variety of special services, including a child care center for campus staff.

An unusually attractive transitional Colonial Revival house stands at the northwest corner of Channing and Bowditch streets. Designed in 1899 by architect William Mooser, this substantial brown-shingled edifice has a wide rounded corner tower, fine diamond-paned leaded windows, a nice columned entry porch and handsome rusticated stonework along the ground level.

All of the original ornamentation remains, a rare occurrence in this neighborhood.

The Atkinson House, a little-known residence by Bernard Maybeck, stands at 2735 Durant Ave. below Gayley Road.

The Atkinson house was designed in 1909, and is a superb brown-shingled First Bay Tradition building. It has a wide sun porch with windows all around, which once afforded a magnificent view of the Bay before monolithic student dorms were built. There is a two-story carriage house in back, with living quarters on the second floor.

The Professor Charles M. Gayley House, an even lesser-



Details of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley. A benefit organ recital on January 31 will raise funds for the restoration of this landmark. Call 466-5401 for information.

known structure by Julia Morgan, stands at 2328 Piedmont Ave. at Durant. The Gayley House was designed in 1905, and is one of Morgan's first independent commissions. Its exterior has been stuccoed over and considerably remodeled. Today this venerable "hidden treasure" functions as a fraternity house.

Looming above Piedmont Avenue at Bancroft is the tower of the massive International House. Designed in 1928 by U.C. architect George Kelham, the "I-House" as international student residents call it, combines Mediterranean yellow stucco walls and red clay tile roofs with Mission-Revival style arches and an In-

dian "stupa-shaped" rounded dome atop the tower.

Next door, at 2307 Piedmont Ave., is one of the great landmarks of Bay Area architecture. The Professor Thorsen House is the only East Bay example of the work of the highly-renowned Pasadena firm Greene and Greene.

Designed in 1908 and com-

pleted in 1909, it is an outstanding Craftsman bungalow. The entrance displays the Greene brothers' characteristic use of Japanese motifs in its Terrigade motif.

Mark A. Wilson is a Realtor at the Albany office of Prudential Real Estate. He can be reached via voice mail, (510) 273-9388.



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Aggressive home inspector may not be 'deal killer'

By Don Pearman

Recently addressed a symposium for Realtors on the relationship between adequate inspections and adequate insurance. He pointed out that houses with hidden problems are likely to fail in an earthquake.

After the presentation, one aggressive Realtor approached me and said that she could not understand why I was a "deal killer" when I do inspections.

Having heard that term often, I have experience recommending that a potential buyer not buy a "deal killer" house inspector. I explained that it wasn't my intention to kill deals: I merely

inspect houses, try to find problems and report them.

I told of inspecting two very similar houses on the same block selling for roughly the same price — House A needed \$50,000 worth of repair work and House B required only \$5,000 worth.

I said that I thought finding only \$5,000 worth of damage at House B might have made me a "deal maker," and that reporting the \$50,000 worth of damage at House A was better than allowing the damage to remain concealed until after the sale, at which time the buyer might have cause to sue the seller, the Realtor and me as the inspector for not disclosing the problems with the house.

Later, I decided to do an impromptu survey of house inspectors. I chatted with one about my puzzlement about Realtors who steer clear of the so-called "deal killer" and try to find inspectors who tend to miss a lot of damage, believing that they make a deal go through more smoothly.

Hespeke rather heatedly about being located in one of the most expensive real estate markets in the country and how frustrated he feels when Realtors for whom he is doing inspections want to almost write his report for him.

This inspector expressed his disbelief that in this upscale market it is even common to forego the pest control report, even though much of the housing stock is 50 years old or older.

He reported that he had done inspections in other less pricey areas and found much less resistance to thorough reports there, confessing little understanding of the seeming contradiction of the higher-priced homes being inspected less often.

I speculated that the Realtors in his area were avoiding "deal killers" in an effort to preserve commissions and that trying to influence his report was a way to keep the profit in the transaction.

Inspectors are not licensed and the field is self-regulated through their professional associations; presumably some are more able to be influenced than others.

No one likes to lose hard-

earned dollars. A homebuyer who finds after he moves in that the house is filled with problems not mentioned on the inspection report is very likely to sue.

Instead of calling a house inspector who finds existing problems and writes a competent report a "deal killer," we should call him an honest "deal maker," a necessary part of the housing industry serving buyers, sellers, Realtors and other competent inspectors alike.

I first wrote about this in 1991, and I find that in the intervening eight years nothing much has changed.

In 1991, property was declining in value from the high prices of the late 1980s.

In my neighborhood, people who had paid top dollar for a property on which there had been multiple offers saw the prices of comparable houses drop as much as 30 percent.

Now prices are starting back up, multiple offers on a property are common, and inspections are missing or substandard. If nothing else, the houses are eight years older — when will we learn?

Don Pearman is a contractor and author of "The Termite Report: How to Save Your Home from Pests, Rot and Earthquakes." Address questions to 2001 Hoover Ave., Oakland, CA 94602. Phone: 530-9444 Fax: 530-9455.

Realty awards \$22,850 for community causes

BERKELEY -- Red Oak Realty pleased to announce the recipients of the Red Oak Community Foundation (ROOF) awards. This year's beneficiaries

College -- Extended Opportunity Programs and Services Scholarship Fund; Read Aloud; Rubicon Programs, Inc.

Awards range from \$100 to \$2,500, totaling \$22,850.

Red Oak agents have been contributing portions of their commissions to this fund for more than 10 years. Red Oak then matches the agents' contributions. The fund recently became a non-profit foundation.

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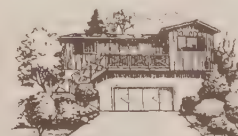
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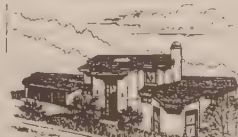
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Kitchen remodeling can open up steamy, spicy forgotten world

By Paul Winans

Are any of these true for you? Every time you go into your kitchen you think that it is time for a change. The avocado appliances and the brown-stained plywood doors seem a bit dated and the drawers don't work anymore. The floor is worn where chairs have been pulled in and out from the table.

Cooking in your kitchen was never easy and now the shortcomings bother you more than ever. The layout seems as though it was done by someone who never cooked! There is only counter space on one side of the range, and if you are going to do any preparation work the counters near the sink need to be cleared. There is absolutely no way more than one person can work in the kitchen.

You are tired of looking at your neighbor's side wall when you do the dishes. Why did they put the sink on that side when there is a wonderful backyard to the rear? Now, to get that view of the back yard, the back porch area has to be integrated into the kitchen and you guess that must have been to

difficult to consider.

Your kitchen needs to be remodeled.

Right, you have known that for a long time that you don't know is how to make it happen. How do you plan the kitchen so that it "works" when the project is done?

You have heard horror stories about remodeling taking forever, or it is done improperly, or your life is turned upside down as your kitchen is torn up.

Start by keeping a list of everything that drives you nuts about the kitchen. Keep the list handy so that you can add to it as you work in the kitchen.

One type of problem: "Things are falling apart." Some of the items you might be aware of may include malfunctioning appliances, cabinet doors that have fallen off or swing open, or the rip in the flooring which you trip on every time you walk into the kitchen.

Other items you might note can include "missing features" such as lighting so bad that you can't see when you are working at the counter, inadequate counter space that forces you to

juggle pots and preparation work. Do you feel lonely when people are over because they can't fit in the kitchen while you cook.

The goal is to get a list of items that the successful kitchen remodel will solve as well your budget will allow.

The next step is to find someone to help you plan your remodel. How do you do this? Ask friends for recommendations. Interview contractors over the phone. Ask detailed questions and expect detailed answers.

If the phone interview goes well, have the contractor come to your home for a walk-through. The purpose for this meeting is to get to know one another and to see if there is a fit, a match of styles. There are a many kinds of people and remodeling contractors.

If you do not hit it off, keep on looking. Having your house remodeled is too exciting an occasion to settle for a contractor with whom you do not get along.

Ask how this remodeling contractor handles the design process. Some do not do design work and will recommend an architect or kitchen designer. If that hap-

pens, interview that person. Keep in mind the same critical question: "Is there a match here?"

Some remodeling contractors work on a design/build basis in which the remodeling contractor works with the client to design and remodel.

One advantage for the client is he only has to find and work with one company.

An extra advantage is that a contractor can keep you informed of the project's cost as the design unfolds. This makes it more likely that what gets designed actually will get built because it fits your budget.

If you are considering this approach, make sure the remodeling contractor is experienced.

The contractor has to be able to combine the skills of a designer and a builder. Not all contractors can do this.

Next column we will continue with the planning process. We will start to look at the concerns you might bring to getting the layout right and selecting the proper materials.

In the meantime, good luck in your current kitchen! Remember, it will all change soon.

Direct-vent fireplace attractive option

By John Schneider and Toni Wilson

If you have a room in your house that just doesn't get warm enough with your existing heating system you have a few alternatives.

The first is to increase the capacity and output of your existing system. This would be accomplished by replacing the existing furnace with a unit with higher output and adding a heating duct to the room.

This, of course, can be very expensive and require a lot of

work. You could also add electric base board heaters. These can be expensive to operate and don't always fit in well with the decor of the room.

There is another option: a fireplace. There is a new generation of gas-fired fireplaces, designed to be room heaters, which are not only attractive, but are also relatively inexpensive and easy to install.

These fireplaces are referred to as "direct vent gas fireplaces" and can be placed in just about any room in the house, including bedrooms.

Unlike the traditional gas logs that are placed in ordinary fireplaces, these gas appliances are energy-efficient, converting approximately 80 percent of the gas that they burn to heated air that is circulated in the rooms they are heating.

One of the major differences between these fireplaces and a regular fireplace is the design of the firebox assembly, and the fact that the glass panel at the front of the firebox is not openable.

Most conventional and prefabricated fireplaces are fully open to the rooms they serve, and use


the air inside the house for combustion. Once the fire is going, this air is then vented to the exterior of a building through the chimney or flue pipe.

This removal of interior air can be very inefficient. The direct-vent fireplace is basically a sealed unit that uses a dual flue to take all of its air for combustion from the outside of the house, and then vents the burnt gasses to the exterior.

Inside the unit is a heat exchanger that draws the air from

See Option on C-5

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JANUARY 21-22, 1999

OPTION: Fireplace can heat the home

Continued from page C-4

of the house, and then the air is drawn to the ex-

the unit is a heat exchanger that draws the air from the unit and around the heater, and then it is blown into the house. This is a very efficient way to heat the house, and it is also a very safe way to heat the house.

of these fireplaces, they can be either built into the wall or freestanding. They can be vented horizontally through the roof, or vertically through the side of the house.

shows unlimited possibilities as to where they are installed in a room. The basic design of these units are 16 to 24 inches deep, 38 to 42 inches wide, and 30 to 40 inches tall. They can be built into the wall, or they can be freestanding. They can be built into the wall, or they can be freestanding.

these units are controlled by a thermostat that can be mounted on the wall, or they can be controlled by a remote control. They can be controlled by a thermostat that can be mounted on the wall, or they can be controlled by a remote control.

convenience, they can be turned on and off with a remote control. Due to advances in flame technology, these fireplaces create realistic looking flames that look like real wood burning.

have adjustable controls that allow you to set the heat and the flame to your mood. You can set the heat to a low, medium, or high setting, and you can set the flame to a low, medium, or high setting.

ward to imagine how much these units can actually put out. You have seen one in

Typically, they can put out anywhere from 5,000 to 50,000 BTUs an hour. The heat that radiates off of the glass panel is more than what you could feel from a regular fireplace.

This, combined with the blower at the bottom of the firebox, will allow the heated air to circulate throughout most of the house.

This is comparable to the heat that a wall furnace or forced air furnace could supply. Actually, one of these units can heat major portions of a home, as opposed to a single room, depending on exactly where they are installed.

Builders are beginning to install these fireplaces in apartments and condos instead of a conventional wall furnace or heater because of their efficiency and good looks.

It is just a matter of time before consumers realize the true potential of these units.

Manufacturers for these fireplaces include Pacific Energy Gas Stoves Limited, of British Columbia, Canada, Johnson Gas Appliance Co., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and RSF Energy which is in Quebec, Canada.

One of the best local sources for these fireplaces is Energy Unlimited Wholesale in Richmond. They can be reached at 510-233-4701, and they can provide you with information, brochures and technical data.

John Schneider and Toni Wilson operate All About Homes, a home inspection company specializing in construction and code consultation service. Readers may address questions and comments to All About Homes, 24326 Mission Blvd., Suite 7, Hayward, CA 94544. FAX: 537-8666.

Real estate market unpredictable for '99

By Richard Knutson

If you count real estate and roller coasters among your passions, you were a happy camper in 1998. This has been a year of cockiness, caution, cliffhangers and confusion. And it's not over yet. Expect more sharp corners, precipitous falls and big climbs in 1999.

Of course, we're all still talking about the return of good times after the "repression" of the early '90s, but the heady and universal gains of the turnaround years, 1995 to 1997, are behind us. Landlords enjoyed continuing rent growth and appreciation across the Bay Area and in all product

types for most of 1998.

The first sign of a corner came in June when players in the apartment arena reported a pronounced softening, even slight decline, in the South Bay markets.

Since the South Bay led us into the recovery, the big question in the East Bay is, "When will we follow suit?"

I don't think we'll see a decline, but I fully expect a 'soft ceiling' to appear in 1999, especially in high rent areas.

We still have a couple years of solid rent growth in lagging markets such as Concord, Martinez

and Vallejo.

Transactions remain at a high pace, although we're seeing fewer multiple-offer situations and less aggressive underwriting — Buyers aren't buying as much on futures.

Of course, the virtual disappearance of the REITs in July was a shocker for those of us busy lining up acquisitions for these recently insatiable capital sources.

By September, those same guys on the far coast decided mortgage rates were too low.

Thus the securization of real estate is finally manifesting it-

self in our daily lives. Don't plan

on that going away anytime soon. The commercial real estate markets in Northern California were great for some and nauseating for others during 1998. If you liked it, smile and get ready for more. If not, hold on tight and keep your Dramamine pills handy: It's not over yet!

Richard Knutson, CCIM, is a partner with Moison Investment Company and a regional specialist in multi-housing investment. He can be reached at (510) 347-4552, or by e-mail at rghnutson@ccim.net.



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7 ROSS RD. Lovely single level home. \$339,000
201 PACIFIC AVE. 3 BD, 1 BA Woodstock Townhome. Shown by appt. only. REDUCED TO \$139,000.
7 KINGSBURY CT. 2 BD, 3 1/2 BA, Marina Village, plus extra bedroom. Lagoon view. PRICE REDUCTION. \$330,000
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NEW LISTINGS! 4-PLEX. 2-1 BD, 1 BA; 1-2 BD, 1 BA; 1-3 BD, 1 BA. \$325,000
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AGENT OF THE WEEK: JOAN UNDERWOOD

Joan has been serving clients in the Berkeley to Richmond area for over 20 years. Her knowledge of the area, friendly manner, and the ability to get things done have made her very popular with buyers and seller alike. A resident of Richmond Annex since 1976, Joan especially likes working with residents in that area.

Joan makes it a point to keep her clients well informed about the transaction every step of the way. She states, "It is vital that everyone be completely aware of what is happening and what needs to be done when going through the steps of buying or selling a home. Working closely together builds a good solid relationship based on trust."

Joan really enjoys helping buyers locate their first home and finds renewing old relationships with repeat clients especially satisfying.

For her expertise, attention to detail and energetic follow-through, Joan at Red Oak Realty (510) 527-3387 ext. 113.



Joan Underwood



Carol Vitcha

BY APPOINTMENT

ALBANY

Spanish style 2bd/1ba bungalow, h/wds, fenced yard, walk to shops. \$182,000

BERKELEY

4bd/2.5ba, family room/au pair, patio views, large yard! \$575,000

Cosmetic finishes. 90% finished. All new systems. \$325,000

Westbrae sanctuary! W/ fine gardens! Big 1bd/1ba classic, vintage charm. \$169,000

Great 2bd/1ba fixer "as is". 203k potential. Original wood throughout. \$139,000

Charming Elmwood 2+bd/1.5ba Victorian, well-maintained. \$259,000

RICHMOND

Rich. Annex - gardener's delight! Charming, cozy 2bd/1ba, well maint. \$129,900

New list - Cute 2bd/1ba cottage w/Bay view & big bklyd. Ready to move-in. \$98,000

SATISFIED HOMEBUYER OF THE WEEK: CAROL VITCHA

"I enjoyed working with Joan very much! One of the areas she specializes in is Richmond Annex where I wanted to purchase a home. I knew from the beginning of my house search that Joan had the solid years of experience and real estate knowledge that I wanted my agent to have.

I recommend Joan highly to all buyers and especially those who, like me, are buying a home for the first time."

COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL/LOTS

New list! 3 units: two 1bd/1ba, bay view, one 2bd/1ba. \$295,000

Gorgeous near level bay view El Cerrito lot, excellent neighborhood! \$114,000



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WEEKLY HOME SALES

ALAMEDA

3 Bosshard Ct. - \$343,500
8 Bosshard Ct. - \$304,000
221 Central Ave. - \$225,000
906 Central Ave. - \$325,000
2328 Eagle Ave. - \$215,000
1815 Harvard Dr. - \$488,000
1617 Lafayette St. - \$259,000
1629 Lincoln Ave. - \$245,000
2163 Lincoln Ave. - \$155,000
2624 San Jose Ave. - \$265,000
2101 Shoreline Dr. #55 - \$167,000
1163 Verdemar Dr. - \$210,000
1009 Via Aliso - \$224,000
882 Walnut St. - \$277,000
1809 Yale Dr. - \$278,000

ALBANY

1036 Evelyn Ave. - \$220,000
916 Neilson St. - \$315,000
555 Pierce St. #C181 - \$118,000
1267 Portland Ave. - \$219,000
520 Talbot Ave. - \$387,500

BERKELEY

1808 5th St. - \$400,000
1301 67th St. - \$139,000
2811 9th St. - \$160,000
1428 Allston Wy. - \$219,000
163 Alvarado Rd. - \$661,000
817 Arlington Ave. - \$675,000
2424 Byron St. - \$194,000
1403 Channing Wy. - \$143,000
2334 Corona Ct. - \$585,000
86 El Camino Real - \$460,000
1517 Le Roy Ave. - \$545,000
2550 Mabel St. - \$269,000
1938 Marin Ave. - \$412,000
408 Michigan Ave. - \$501,000
1501 Milvia St. - \$350,000
2643 Piedmont Ave. - \$400,000
2887 Shasta Rd. - \$377,500
1161 The Alameda - \$339,500
287 The Uplands - \$698,000

EL CERRITO

1645 Arlington Bl. - \$365,000

6743 Cutting Bl. - \$210,000
2300 Edna St. - \$319,000
1910 Key Bl. - \$211,000
1605 Liberty St. #2 - \$154,000
514 Norvell St. - \$215,000
5316 School St. - \$167,000

OAKLAND

2370 100th Ave. - \$70,000
1422 102nd Ave. - \$115,000
1835 103rd Ave. - \$72,000
1615 104th Ave. - \$65,000
2214 14th Ave. - \$123,500
1464 35th Ave. - \$110,000
3219 38th Ave. - \$280,000
1011 57th St. - \$76,500
2501 60th Ave. - \$140,000
1372 61st Ave. - \$115,000
517 61st St. - \$142,500
1718 68th Ave. - \$108,500
1112 75th Ave. - \$89,000
2655 78th Ave. - \$68,000
1437 80th Ave. - \$86,500
1480 82nd Ave. - \$115,000
1355 83rd Ave. - \$145,000
1241 90th Ave. - \$140,000
1476 Adeline St. - \$165,000
674 Arimo Ave. - \$432,000
6815 Armour Dr. - \$290,000
759 Barbara Rd. - \$145,000
1397 Barrows Rd. - \$245,000
6340 Broadway - \$275,000
320 Caldecott Ln. #357 - \$141,000
320 Caldecott Ln. #374 - \$130,000
320 Caldecott Ln. #393 - \$142,000
320 Caldecott Ln. #399 - \$197,000
320 Caldecott Ln. #413 - \$241,000
1080 Clarendon Cr. - \$335,000
38 Danbury St. - \$230,000
3123 Davis St. - \$103,000
3241 Deering St. - \$113,500
7433 Deerwood Ave. - \$138,500
3033 Elmwood Ave. - \$85,000
3045 Elmwood Ave. - \$85,000
8033 Fontaine St. - \$193,000
801 Franklin St. #1437 - \$160,000

3962 Fruitvale Ave. - \$315,000
3058 Georgia St. - \$152,000
7569 Greenly Dr. - \$239,000
7721 Greenly Dr. - \$115,000
7925 Greenly Dr. - \$135,000
6016 Harwood Ave. - \$425,000
479 Hudson St. - \$240,000
3830 Huntington St. - \$230,000
385 Jayne Ave. #303 - \$69,500
4001 Laguna Ave. - \$269,000
427 Lagunitas Ave. #205 - \$120,500

320 Lee St. #203 - \$96,500
3758 Madrone Ave. - \$165,000
6126 Majestic Ave. - \$149,000
89 Mandalay Rd. - \$379,000
5120 Manila Ave. - \$259,000
5421 Market St. - \$200,000
220 Mather St. - \$250,000
266 Mather St. - \$268,000
6415 Melville Dr. - \$339,000
3801 Monterey Bl. - \$304,000
2543 Monticello Ave. - \$160,000
5659 Moraga Ave. - \$254,000
2946 Morgan Ave. - \$161,000
1550 Mountain Bl. - \$401,000
5690 Oak Grove Ave. - \$420,000
4157 Rifle Ln. - \$232,000
2200 Rosedale Ave. - \$124,000
3428 Salisbury St. - \$140,000
6717 Saroni Dr. - \$450,000
4961 Stoneridge Ct. - \$336,000
5914 Thornhill Dr. - \$300,000
1562 Treble Glen Rd. - \$349,000
4137 Whittle Ave. - \$385,000

PIEDMONT

6 Dormidera Ave. - \$699,000
1346 Grand Ave. - \$280,000
1566 Oakland Ave. - \$565,000
85 Ronada Ave. - \$349,500

RICHMOND

626 25th St. - \$145,000
441 36th St. - \$195,000
575 40th St. - \$195,000
3009 Alta Mira Dr. - \$60,000
5748 Amend Rd. - \$265,000
2369 Brooks Ave. - \$120,000
2724 East Ct. #1 - \$108,000
2702 East Ct. #2 - \$106,500
1616 Hayes St. - \$122,000
2915 Joann Dr. - \$163,000
1567 Mariposa St. - \$154,000
3612 McBryde Ave. - \$1,094,500
1201 Melville Sq. #308 - \$189,000
1811 Rheem Ave. - \$105,000
3326 Rheem Ave. - \$128,000
142 South 12th St. - \$131,000
1250 South 57th St. - \$217,000
67 Southwind Cl. - \$336,000
89 Windward Wy. - \$305,000
5839 Yale Ave. - \$187,000

SAN LEANDRO

1366 Breckenridge St. - \$234,000

BERKELEY
TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST SALES: \$139,000
HIGHEST SALES: \$698,000
AVERAGE SALES: \$396,210

EL CERRITO
TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST SALES: \$154,000
HIGHEST SALES: \$365,000
AVERAGE SALES: \$234,428

EL SOBRANTE
TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST SALES: \$170,000
HIGHEST SALES: \$197,000
AVERAGE SALES: \$183,500

EMERYVILLE
TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST SALES: \$101,500
HIGHEST SALES: \$140,000
AVERAGE SALES: \$125,166

ALAMEDA
TOTAL SALES: 15
LOWEST SALES: \$155,000
HIGHEST SALES: \$488,000
AVERAGE SALES: \$265,366

ALBANY
TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST SALES: \$118,000
HIGHEST SALES: \$387,500
AVERAGE SALES: \$251,900

OAKLAND
TOTAL SALES: 73
LOWEST SALES: \$65,000
HIGHEST SALES: \$470,000
AVERAGE SALES: \$202,863

PIEDMONT
TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST SALES: \$280,000
HIGHEST SALES: \$699,000
AVERAGE SALES: \$473,375

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OAKLAND

\$115,000. First-time buyers. Near Intl. Blvd. Three beds, 1 bath, upgraded, new kit, cabinets, remodeled bath, paint inside and out. Don Patterson, 748-1756.
ONE BLOCK FROM LAKE MERRITT. Two PLUS bed, 2 baths, hardwood floors. Kitty Wan, 747-1621.
PRICE REDUCED ON THESE 4 UNITS. All units have 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Ron Bang, 748-1766.
TOP FLOOR CORNER CONDO UNIT. Two bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, close to UC Berkeley. Light & airy. Call Sharon Greene, 523-9421.
PRICE REDUCED ON THIS HOME. Home with view of the bay. Large living, dining & family rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2300 sq ft. A must see at \$299,000. Debbie Budd, 748-1806.
ROOM TO EXPAND. Huge lot with legal duplex. Lower unit ready for rehab. Now on market at \$158,500. Call to see: Sharon Greene, 523-9421.

Moon Tom - 747-1620 We speak Mandarin, Cantonese and English
Kitty Wan - 747-1621 我們精通國、粵、英語

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HADDON HILL DUPLEX. Three bedroom, 2 bath unit and 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit, separate meters, 2-car garage. Great price of \$299,000. Kitty Wan, 747-1621.
BRIGHT HOME WITH FENCED YARD. Three bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, large eat-in kitchen, newer carpet & kitchen linoleum. Moon Tam, 747-1620.

UNITS IN GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR SKYLINE. City view, easy to manage & maintain, good income. Kitty Wan, 747-1621.

FIXER ON CORNER LOT. Three bedrooms. John Parten, 748-1767.

FLORENCE AVE. - 1/4 ACRE LOT ON UNPAVED ROAD. Below the Warren Freeway. Ed Fagrey, 530-3140.

MIXED USE BUILDING. Store front with two + 3 bedroom units. Full basement and mezzanine. Moon Tam, 747-1620.



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Oakland

\$30,000 1075 81 ST. Lot - Great site for duplex! Seller wants to sell now and may carry with good down payment. Call for details. Richard Powell 814-4837

\$119,000 3844 MAYBELLE A large 2 BD, 1 1/2 BA condo in a quiet neighborhood above MacArthur. Located in a small complex with fireplace and covered parking. Russ Grant 814-4713

\$133,000 6470 MacArthur JR. Two townhouse-style units are 2 BR, 1 BA. Call for details. Kathy Hirsch 814-4705

\$145,000 375 JAYNE AVE #203 Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo near Lake Merritt! Formal living & dining room, fireplace, security building a 1 garage parking space. Donn Gutierrez 814-4854

\$209,000 2907 McKILLOP ROAD Cute family home in desirable neighborhood with lots of charm! Single level with three bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room, detached garage, sunny yard and is near all necessities. Steve Sorensen 814-4888

\$210,000 4949 CO. 10th units both 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Call for details. Donn Gutierrez 814-4854

\$325,000 471 27th St. Fourplex! Town 1 bedroom units, one 2 bedrooms unit and one 3 bedrooms unit all have 1 bath. All units include a rangeoven, refrigerator and deck, some include a fireplace. Off street parking. Teie Lee 814-4840

\$349,000 4325 MOUNTAIN VIEW. Single level 2 bedroom, 3 bath home in a park like setting! This showplace includes formal dining room, extra large family room or in-law unit, and refinished hardwood floors. Shirley Ellis 522-5545

\$1,650,000 426 ALICE - Rare find! Great building in Jap. style. 4+ bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, can be developed. Lot 1.5 acres, approx. 22K sq ft. Drop ceiling space with air conditioner and heat. Great for loft. Ringu Lu 814-4848

San Leandro

\$112,000 16343 SARATOGA ST Ground level 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath condo in pleasant location with balcony that gets filtered view. Convenient to 580 Hwy. Great pool area. Russ Grant 814-4713

\$140,000 716 FREDERICK Single level 2 bedroom, 1 car attached garage. Property in present condition. Inspection report available. Teie Lee 521-3352

\$160,000 14519 FLAGSHIP - Lovely 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near Seagate complex! First appliances included. Community pool and tennis court. Teie Lee 521-3352

\$249,000 788 PORTOLA DR - Great 5 bedroom, 2 bath family home. 1 1/2 baths and 1 bath on main level. 2 1/2 baths, 2 1/2 baths, 2 1/2 baths. Possible in-law unit. Hardwood floors throughout and double garage. Shirley McWilliam 814-4825

\$315,000 1233 AMBER CT Mediterranean style with tile roof, 4+ bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, and breakfast area. Marble tile upgrade, high ceilings, finished backyard, close to BART. Ringu Lu 814-4848

\$350,000 COMMERCIAL BUSINESS ON MacArthur BLVD! Restaurant with all equipment included in sales price. Call now for details. Teie Lee 521-3352

By Robert J. Bruss
TRIBUNE MEDIA
SERVICES

Mr. Gert: Yes, you understand Internal Revenue Code as well. But I must clarify some of your remarks. The "crazy new tax rule" applicable to the sale of your current principal residence only. I am assuming, you (and/or your spouse-owner) must own and occupy your principal residence for five years before you can sell it for a capital gain. For full details, if you can't sell it any other way, use a lease-back option.

Dear Bob: I inherited a nice house that I've been trying to sell for the last year. The problem is, it's located in an undesirable, low-income part of town overrun with gangs.

Several Realtors have had my listing. Each gave up after 90 days. Any ideas how to sell this nice

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More details are in my special report "How to Quickly Buy or Sell Your Home With a Lease-Option" available for \$4 from Robert Bruss, 251 Park Road, Burlingame, CA 94010.

They brought me several good purchase offers from small-time builders, contingent on financing. However, banks are reluctant to finance the sale of this "oddball" property (it formerly contained an old house, used as an office, which burned down several years

The obvious solution is for you to carry back seller financing.

Robert J. Bruss is a real estate attorney and syndicated columnist based in Burlingame. You may write to him in care of Hills Newspapers, P.O. Box 8099, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-8099.



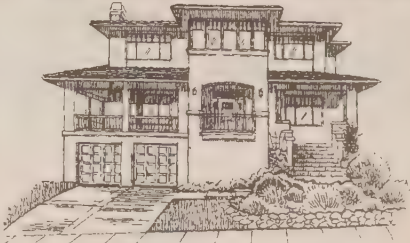
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 Classic archways, floor to ceiling windows, many lovely details have been meticulously maintained in this 1931 charmer! 4BR, plus fam rm, w/den & den! 1820 Clemens Rd. PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000



OPEN SUN 2-4pm

NEW LISTING - VIEW & PRIVACY \$449,000
 The best of both worlds! Perfect family home in Montclair, 2,926 sq. ft., 3BR, den, rec rm. Deck on both l/s, cathedral wood ceilings, h/dwd flrs, lots of privacy w/surrounding trees. 8825 Skyline. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



OPEN SUN 2-4pm

PRESTIGIOUS OAKMORE TRADITION . . . \$375,000
 In the Oakland Hills is a well kept secret. Loc. on a nice corner lot, this 4+BR, 3BA home offers beat. h/dwd, in-law unit and Bay views from the DR. 2001 Braemar Rd. ROSEMARY GREENE 635-9842



SPACIOUS SUNNY HOME! \$269,000
 Family home w/4BR & remodeled kitchen, huge rooms downstairs or possible au pair, 2-car garage, move in! CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES EXCLUSIVELY LISTED. PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

B. BERKELEY APT. BUILDING \$1,690,000
 6 units in prime Berkeley location. 3 commercial, priced to sell. Home. G.R.M. under 6% money maker.
 MARK ATTARHA 339-4000

NEW SINGLE STORY CUSTOM HOME! \$795,000
 Located among mature trees on this flat 1/2 acre is this beautiful Alamo 3BR, 2.5BA, plus den/home. High ceilings! Very elegant!
 CAROLYN HASTINGS (925) 837-2200

EAST OAKLAND APT. BUILDING \$695,000
 6 units high money maker makes work Priced at 5.3 G.R.M. See listing by then call for information
 (925) 866-9991/5809 Harmon.
 MARK ATTARHA 339-4000

SPACIOUS VIEWS \$559,950
 2BR, 2.5BA, 3,000 plus sq. ft., contemporary San Ramon home with spectacular pool and spa w/waterfall. Beautiful kitchen w/when you tour, 3-car garage & tile roofing.
 NORM HASTINGS (925) 837-2200

PERFECT CLASS \$599,000
 Located with distinction, this nearly new contemporary home in the heart of the city is filled with space (over 3,000 sq. ft.). Lots of granite, open floor plan, a dream master suite and is beautiful!
 NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

TEMESCAL UNITS \$495,000
 Sharp 8 units in desirable area, good unit mix, 4-2BRs, 3-1BRs & 1 studio. Lots of upgrades + upside potential. Motivated seller.
 ARNOLD MUELLER 530-6099

GREAT VIEWS! \$489,000
 Huge 5BR, 3BA contemporary, tri-level Danville home w/whewer 50 yr. roof, new carpet & paint. Beautiful cul-de-sac location w/open views. Approx. 2,910 sq. ft. access to private parks, 2 pools, tennis & sports courts.
 RON GATTI (925) 837-2200

STORYBOOK TRADITIONAL \$425,000
 Normandy style surrounded by enchanted garden-built in 1928 and maintained in pristine condition! 3BR, formal dining.
 PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

BEST VIEW IN CANYON LAKES. \$399,000
 Enjoy breathtaking scenery from this gorgeous San Ramon 3BR, 2.5BA contemporary home, 2,200 sq. ft. w/loads of windows and art. A master suite to die for w/retreat, fireplace and Jacuzzi.
 TONY CRISTIANI (925) 837-2200

LIKE NEW! \$395,000
 Sparkling 4BR, 3BA San Ramon home nestled in a quiet corner of Twin Creek Hills. Upgraded & redecorated w/plantation shutters, plush carpeting, new appliances. Large private yard gainsky to open space.
 Open Sun. 1-4, 2920 Sombra Circle. GINNY REEVES (925) 837-2200

A HIDDEN GEM IN SEQUOYAH HILLS \$379,000
 This split level 4BR, 2.5BA spacious home w/panoramic south Bay views offers a sunken family room w/fireplace, eat-in kitchen & wet bar in family room which opens to patio. Yard extends down the hill for privacy. Only a few like this one!
 ROSEMARY GREENE 635-9842

GRAND LOCATION \$375,000
 Close to everything. Spacious and sunny 3BR, 2BA traditional. Excellent location for lots of potential.
 Open 2-4, 1624 Lower Grand. MARTHA SHIN 287-7806

CUTE HOME IN EL CERRITO \$179,000
 With a lot of potential located on a quiet street on a corner lot for 3BR, 1BA. Needs a little loving and care
 PEARL WONG 465-6211

LIVE IN ONE, RENT THE OTHER \$155,000
 Perfect starter home. Fresh paint, new carpet & stove in the front unit. 2BR unit in the back w/2 detached garages, close to freeway, schools, bus stops and shops.
 PEARL WONG 465-6211

THE PERFECT STARTER . . . \$150,000
 Home in the Laurel district has much to offer. Located near shops, transportation and access to freeways. 2BR, 1BA, new paint and carpets. This quiet neighborhood welcomes you!
 ROSEMARY GREENE 635-9842

MOVE LISTING - PERFECT STARTER \$149,000
 Move right in to this home w/hdwd flrs, trpl in LR w/built-in bookshelves, formal DR w/built-ins, updated kitchen w/breakfast rm, redone bath, long side driveway, basement.
 ELAINE JONES 287-9478

1ST OPEN - VICTORIAN FARMHOUSE \$135,000
 Original family home needing TLC but such a great opportunity in historic Ashland area of San Lorenzo, home is 3BR/1BA. Zoned for 2 units. Open Sun. 2-4, 30. 16561 Kent Ave. EARLE SHEINK 287-9590

WHY PAY RENT? \$105,000
 Refurbished condo in prime Adams Point location. 1BR, balcony, secured building - new carpet & beautiful parquet floors.
 CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 287-2648

MONTCLAIR LOT! \$79,000
 Upslope lot in Montclair, Cambridge design group plans. Build your dream home in Montclair! CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400

FOR LESS THAN RENT \$59,000
 You can own this sunny well kept 1BR, 1BA condo - New paint, carpet & tile floor in the kitchen. Secured building w/assigned parking space.
 PEARL WONG 465-6211

WE ARE EXPANDING OUR MONTCLAIR OFFICE.

We have a few openings for newly licensed Real Estate agents, who want to work as an assist. for a Broker, while you learn the business and get paid. Please call Gloria for an interview. • (510) 339-8400

New multiple listing service challenges some

#266 in a series of true experiences in real estate

There's a new multiple listing service for all agents in Berkeley, Oakland, El Cerrito and nearby, a brand new system that must be installed and learned.

There are no multiple listing books printed anymore. We used to get a book every two weeks that contained all of the active listings in our area, but with the advent of the new system, the books no longer are published. We are completely dependent on our computers for market information.

New elements offered

The operation of the new system is totally different from the one we're used to, but there are some interesting new features such as maps and photos which should make the system attractive.

Listings will include a section of a street map pinpointing the property's location, and interior photos will join exterior shots of agents' listings. It seems we'll be able to sit at our computers and tour the inside of houses via pictures.

The new MLS manual says that neighboring properties are shown as well. I'm not sure what this means as I haven't seen it demonstrated. Maybe the photographer who takes a picture of our listings will photograph houses on either side as well. I look forward to finding out if this is true.



Tarpo and Talbert

We'll also be able to compile a group of listings and e-mail them to our clients. Unfortunately, we can't e-mail the maps and photos as well.

The Windows-based system is introduced to agents in a four-hour training session. Anet and I attended our session a couple of weeks ago. We found the information interesting, but overwhelming.

We were not alone. Some veteran agents, only half kidding, say they are thinking of quitting the business. They just don't think they'll ever master the new program.

Anet and I brought our new MLS manuals and program disks home intending to install the program and play with the system until we could easily retrieve information. That was the plan. Unfortunately, we hit some snags.

It was just before Christmas and Anet's mom, Olga, was visiting from Atlanta for the holidays. Anet has been encouraging her mom for some time to get a com-

puter of her own, along with an accounting program such as Quicken, the one Anet uses to keep track of our finances.

This year, the day after Olga arrived, the two of them sat down in front of the computer for a demonstration. Anet named the computer components: the TV-like screen is the monitor, the typewriter part is the keyboard, "the mouse," and so on.

She opened Quicken and showed her mother how checks are recorded and categorized and how she can pump out year-end reports all ready to send to the accountant.

Olga was impressed. "I think I could do this," she said. "But I'm so afraid that I would press the wrong button and everything would disappear."

"Oh, no, Mom," Anet assured her, "It just doesn't happen that way. You save the info in the computer and it's there when you go back. Believe me, nothing will go wrong."

Famous last words

Olga, pleased with her lesson, said that maybe she should take a computer class and then she could buy her own computer. Then she went off to fix herself a cup of tea.

Anet, still at the computer and feeling good, decided this was the time to install the new MLS program. She would, she thought, just put in the program disk, follow the instructions, and the system would be ready to go.

Everything went wrong. The

installation was taking a long time — too long, Anet was sure. When she chose to stop it, thinking she'd better get advice from an MLS technician, the screen went blank. Windows had vanished.

"Oh no, oh no," Anet cried. Olga and I, talking and drinking tea in the next room, heard Anet plead, "Don't do this!"

"What's the matter, honey?" Olga called to her daughter. "Is there anything we can do to help?"

"No, mom," Anet said. "I've lost Windows. This is awful." Then her concern shifted and she quickly added, "Mom, this isn't typical. We've never had anything like this happen before, so don't think this sort of thing will happen to you."

Although our computers are less than two years old, a fact that made us innocently complacent about their abilities, they are woefully inadequate for the new MLS system. They're too slow and don't have enough power or memory. We were told we'd have to buy new ones. Very bad news.

Thoroughly distressed but intent on a solution, Anet next contacted our own computer expert, Jenny. Jenny was about to leave on a week-long Christmas trip

but she came to look at the "patient" which by now had been declared "incapacitated."

We hoped our old computer files could be saved but attempts to get them back had not been successful.

Jenny said she would take the computer home and work on it as soon as she was back from her trip. She and Anet discussed what new equipment Anet should buy.

A silver lining

"I'm so sorry," Olga told Anet. "I just wish I could fix it for you."

With her usual good cheer, Anet said, "Mom, maybe one of our old computers can be yours. At least, out of all this mess, you'll have a computer."

Another day was given to computer shopping, comparing specifications and prices, phoning to the MLS people, and ordering.

As I write this, Jenny, graciously regained our computer. She's provided us with computers that should support just fine and a bonus computer for Olga.

We still haven't tried the new multiple listing system. One day, Anet says, will be to install it. Today she will install the program disk in the computer, press the buttons, zoom — we'll have it. A manual by our side, we can run it, learn to use all that we need from it. We can make a living without it.

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Barry 644-5423, 428-0900

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Med. style. 900 to 1,100 sq. ft. ea. Four story building w/covered parking.
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Redwood Heights charmer at a great price! Hardwood floors, sunny with garden windows.
Lisa Friedman 834-2010

1920'S FIXER.....\$160,000
Loads of charm with evident potential. This is the one you've been looking for! Jim Forquer 339-9290

NEW LISTING! OPEN SUNDAY 2-4.....\$149,000
3750 Harrison #102. Quality upgraded condo in well-maintained building near Piedmont Ave! 2BD/2BA w/custom features!
Carol Jekabson 849-3711, 527-3494

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2BD, living room, formal dining room, big kitchen, full basement. Automatic iron gate. Long driveway. 7,000 sq. ft., level lot!
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BUILD YOUR DREAM!
Panoramic Bay view lot. Approved plans/permits for 3,600 sq. ft., contemporary home. Sharon Ho 339-9290

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Adrienne Nash 763-4060

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4+BD/2BA on .91 acre w/cabin and income from the city of Oakland. Backs to Montclair golf course.
Michele Alden 428-0900

CROCKER HIGHLANDS.....\$339,000
Fabulous 2+BD/1BA plus basement + yard. Charm. Must See! 1st Open Sun. 1-4.
Nancy Platford 845-0200

GLENVIEW TRADITIONAL.....\$309,000
Great floor plan. Quiet cul-de-sac. 3BD/2BA. Eat in kitchen, living room w/fireplace. Master suite.
Gene Boomer 869-4202

HOME + INCOME IN MONTCLAIR.....\$299,000
Large home used as duplex. 3BD/1+BA upstairs & 2BD/1BA downstairs. Woodsy setting, great area.
Ana & Pascal Forest 465-8150, 845-0200

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7 units - good upside potential. Five 1BD units, one 2BD, one studio! Good value!
Gaby Olander 526-2418, 849-3711

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\$210,000
4BR/1BA wander thru fruit trees & flowers to this cozy home. Nat'l wood trim, wood burning stove.
Arlene Baxter 433-9816, 845-0200

ALAMEDA

LOOK NO FURTHER.....\$375,000
3BD/2.5BA traditional home, fireplace, landscaping, 2-car garage. At end of cul-de-sac.
Camille Rogers 464-1013, 845-0200

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14 2BD/1.5BA units. Patios or decks. Rent upside. On-site parking. 1,000 sq. ft. units.
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CUSTOM HOME! SERENE SETTING!.....\$695,000
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Wendy Louie 273-9306, 849-3711

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with 2 separate lots. Private, peaceful Golden Gate Bridge views. 5BD/3BA, just listed!
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an El Cerrito mailing address plus 3-2BD apartments. 1 store front. Perfect for owner/user!
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EL SOBRANTE JEWEL.....\$299,900
Large 4BD/3BA (1BD and BA of mail level), large park-like backyard. Open 2-4. Call
Jeanne Sullivan 452-6100, 527-3494

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Charming 2BD home in favorite El Cerrito neighborhood. Sweet features & floor plan.
Carol Heath-Kim 869-4000, 527-3494

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Call Diane Britto or Peter Fletcher at (510) 521-1177

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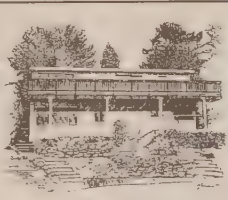
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Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$445,000

ROMANTIC HIDEAWAY with panoramic view! Walk to U.C. 2BR, 1BA. Linda Wolan ext. 123.....\$299,000 "AS IS"

OAKLAND



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Above the soaring eagles with the San Francisco Bay at your feet! This very sophisticated custom built home is just minutes from Berkeley, Orinda or Montclair. Master suite plus 4BR, 3 full baths, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen/family room, garage with interior access.
Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$1,090,000

UPPER ROCKRIDGE: A fiesta of craftsmanship of Mexico! 2 master suites, den, large 2-car garage, au-pair potential. Bay views!
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Jack McPhail ext. 135.....\$219,000

3239 KEMPTON. Unconventional living space in converted tudor school building! Beautiful Loft! Leslie Easterday ext. 134.....\$169,000

KENSINGTON

19 LENOX ROAD - PRICE REDUCED! Cosmetic Fixer 4BR, 2.5BA - with plus room, dark room, partial view, covered patio.
Tricia Swift ext. 140.....\$349,000

ALBANY

850 STANNAGE #2. Sunny, lovely condo in Mediterranean building. Parking. 1BR, 1BA. Mary Montali ext. 132.....\$125,000

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events Calendar does not include profit listings. An- nouncements for these events can be found in the classified section of the paper. Listings are available on a space-available basis.

Truitt and White Lumber Company, 642 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. "Sismic Retrofitting: What you need to know and why." January 23 from 10 to 11 a.m. Reservations required. Call (510) 841-0511.

Katherine Teegarden of RAF presents a free semi-workshop to Buy and Finance

a Fixer-Upper Property at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 28. Includes discussion of 203(k) loans. Realtors, home buyers, investors invited. First American Title Co., 1544 Webster St., Oakland. Reservation required. Call (800) 300-0007 ext. 34.

Free contractor seminar at Truitt and White Lumber Company, 642 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. "Making Your Workplace Lead-Safe" sponsored by the Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Saturday, January 30 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Reservations are required. Please call (510) 841-0511.

John Fenstermaker, organist and choirmaster at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, will present a **benefit organ recital** at the historic First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley, on Sunday, January 31 at 3 p.m. The program, sponsored by the Maybeck Foundation, will raise funds for the preservation and restoration of the church, which is considered one of architect Bernard Maybeck's masterpieces. Tickets purchased in advance are \$20 (\$15 for students); tickets at the door are \$25. Please call the Maybeck Foundation event line for details (510) 466-5401.

Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. For more information call (800) 501-SAVE

Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the **Free Guided Walking Tours** sponsored by the City's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call 238-3234.

Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe

from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free **Sick Plant Clinic** at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call 643-2755 or garden@uclink4.berkeley.edu for more information.

Russell Doi of the Mortgage Network hosts free **First Time Homebuyer Seminar** on an on-going basis. Learn about the many first-time homebuyer programs available today. Find out just how much home you can afford to buy. Receive a free booklet that will

help you prepare for the biggest investment you may ever make. Call 526-6554 for reservations.

The **Orchid Society of California** meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the Lake Merritt Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. Learn about orchids and their care. Purchase orchid plants at the members' plant sale before the meeting. Orchid lecturers share their knowledge and provide plants for a raffle. Join the camaraderie and learn about the beautiful world of orchids.

Call 531-1210 for more information

Making the most of your china cabinet

easier than you think, you'll enjoy for years

By Eileen Hallburton

Many reading this own china which you have never, two or three times in a life, or once a year?

Guessing that the major reason for disuse of your good china is that you have stored it in a closet or a lower cupboard.

Not only do you need to get on the china, you must take out all the glassware and silver pieces that are stored in it. Then you must remove all the fabric or paper between each plate.

Following this procedure is only a chore because you will be able to return the china to storage in enough to make anyone interested in actually using the

china. How about making a change this year?

What have you stored now in your china cabinet? Crystal stemware, your silver candlesticks, some vases and a demitasse set? Am I close?

Picture your finest china displayed in the china cabinet.

There is no comparison between the hit or miss look of miscellany and the rich uniform look of a matched set of china.

When I am redesigning homes, I am delighted to find miscellany in china cabinets only because these pieces are needed to give new life to mantels, coffee tables, bookshelves and lamp tables.

With the miscellany used to better advantage I am free to "do my thing" with the china cabinet. Following are the basics of my formula for arranging china.

Six steps to attractive, functional china displays

1. Place a row of cups and saucers on the first or second shelf;
2. Place three to five plates on plate stands behind the cups and saucers;
3. Stack the remainder of plates on one or two of the lower shelves;
4. Place a matching or complementary casserole or dish on top or middle shelf;
5. Perhaps place some of the crystal stemware at either end of a shelf;
6. Find a figurine, a vase, a teapot or something comparable in a color or texture that complements the china and add it for interest.

This formula will vary for every china cabinet. So much de-

pends upon the color and look of the china and the cabinet. The size of each will also determine placement.

But I urge you to be creative and your china cabinet will look like a still life ready for someone to paint.

One final hint: Never, or nearly ever, place anything on top of your china cabinet. More than likely your china cabinet is in perfect proportion to the architecture and the rest of your room's furniture.

Adding something to the top of the cabinet throws off the scale of the piece itself and also clutters architectural lines such as molding, doorways and windows.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30PM



1701 Spruce Street, Berkeley

This magnificent Mediterranean Traditional with beautiful wood details and original tile work, has been fabulously preserved. Features include: large formal rooms, spectacular bridge views, 5 bedrooms, three baths and an additional bedroom and bath downstairs with separate entrance, ideal for au-pair.

Offered at \$720,000

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13250 CAMPUS DRIVE.....\$549,000
Fabulous canyon and bay views surround this spacious 90's home. Four BD, 4 full BA, family room, home office, huge eat-in kitchen, 3 car garage, new paint. Mary Neuberger 530-4148



4450 ELINORA.....\$275,000
Spacious family home close to good schools, transportation and shopping. Move in condition. Hardwood floors, fireplace, fenced yard. Jini Kelley ext. 247



526 MIRA VISTA AVENUE.....\$335,000
Grand lake area, Remodeled brown shingle with Old World charm 3 BD, 2.5 BA with 2+ rooms, gorgeous kitchen, master bedroom suite, huge yard and more! Kate Phillips 436-4100



65 MERRIWOOD CIRCLE.....\$269,000
Montclair retreat in tranquil wooded setting! 2 bedroom, 2 bath with plus room, wonderful decks, large lot with level area, garage plus parking pad. Barbara Roessler ext. 264

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT



UNIQUE TRADITIONAL.....\$450,000
Home with great potential, 4 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms, bay and bridge views, great location, yard, fixer sold "AS IS". Stan Hammond 839-5846

HOME PLUS 5 UNITS.....\$470,000
Older 3 BD, 2BA bungalow which shows nicely, 10 year old 5-plex behind home with 2 BD, 1 BA each. Rents approx. \$770+ each. GI \$57K, quiet locale and tenants. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

GRANDLAKE AREA.....\$259,000
Old World Charm! Lots of original detailing, 3 BD/1 BA. Walk to Lakeshore and Grand Ave., bus line and shops. Heidi Tuggle 531-4554

STUNNING 2-STORY CONDO.....\$165,000
Built in 1992. Over 1200 sq. ft. including 2BD, 2.5 BA, LR with fireplace, DR, laundry closet, gourmet kitchen, private rear yard, basement, security gate entrance. On bus line, near shopping. Small complex. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

WALK TO PIEDMONT AVE!.....\$156,000
2BD/1BA condo in great building. Parking, new carpet and vinyl, fresh paint, balcony. Chris Christensen ext. 242

LAND

TWO ADJACENT LOTS.....\$390,000/\$430,000
With 9 building pads, cul-de-sac location, area of Million Dollar homes, preliminary building plans. Chris Christensen ext. 242

ANY VIEW LOT W/BLDG PLANS.....\$107,000
Nearly 1 acre in country setting. Build your own ranch! Utilities present and mostly cleared of trees. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

VERY GENTLE DOWNSLOPE.....\$99,000
Utilities present. Last vacant lot located between homes, Tahoe, rustic setting in Oakland Hills near Broadway Terrace and Skyline. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

MONTCLAIR LOT ON WESTOVER DR.....\$64,500
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Open Sunday 2-4:30



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1701 SPRUCE STREET, BERKELEY \$720,000
Stately Mediterranean with beautiful architecture and original wood & tile details. Large formal rooms, Au-pair w/separate entrance, Bay views & level garden w/waterfall. MAVIS DELACROIX

6186 MAZUELA DRIVE \$658,000
Smashing 2 year old Contemporary. Quality details & materials. View. Fabulous kitchen, air cond. Close in location. 5/3 w/FR and rumpus. ED KUO

6180 MAZUELA DRIVE \$729,000
Spacious & distinctive Montclair Contemporary. Sophisticated floor plan & Bay views. Mstr w/ sitting rm & deck. Gourmet kitchen & family room. S. BENNINGER

5901 ESTATES DRIVE \$519,000
Stunning contemporary with bridge view. Level in, soaring ceilings, woody setting, 3 bedrooms & 3 baths. JAMES GARCIA

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A fabulous find in Claremont Pines. One level living w/3 bedrooms, 3 baths & easy access to outdoor living & entertaining. E. DICKSON

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GREAT LOCATION! \$199,000
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Homes at risk from 'electronic kindling,' new appliances

By Don Pearman

The number of electrical fires is increasing. You would think that the opposite would be true, given the current state of knowledge about electrical safety. But knowledge and safety are not driving forces - cost is.

As a fire investigator monitoring fire dispatch and having credentials to cross fire lines, I find that modern appliances and home electrical systems are responsible for easily-preventable disasters.

When plastic is used in the manufacture of an item and there is an electrical source for operation of that item, an electrical failure such as a short or an arc will set the plastic on fire, and the plastic will melt and drip, spreading to ignite nearby objects.

A plastic exterior light fixture caught fire because of a short, setting the plastic on fire. The flames spread to the front of the house. What could have been a disaster was averted as a resident called the fire department in time.

Light fixture fires are more dangerous than they used to be when light fixtures were made of metal and were not flammable. In the case of a short, the ignition energy would have been con-

tained within the fixture and would not have spread to the structure.

In another blaze, a plastic higher-voltage thermostat caught on fire and melted down, setting the carpet on fire at a loss of \$20,000.

Again, things used to be different. Old-style thermostats operated on micro voltage, which was not capable of generating ignition temperatures. In most cases the thermostats were made of non-flammable materials, which is not necessarily the case today.

Low-cost power strips made of flammable plastic have arced or shorted out, igniting surrounding material. This situation is compounded when the power strip is filled to capacity with extensions and is placed under a shelf or between a desk and a wall.

Higher-quality power strips have been manufactured of non-flammable materials, yet there may still be a problem if they are overloaded with a lot of low-cost extension or appliance cords.

Many fixtures, thermostats and power strips are UL-approved, as well as appliances and many other electrically-powered home items. But there is no spe-

cific fire-testing of the materials used in the construction of these products.

These are just a few examples: There are hundreds of products made of plastic, and, if the product involves electricity and something causes an arcing condition in the wiring which causes the plastic to burn, a much larger fire is possible.

Combustible material surrounding the burning plastic - framing, carpet, drapery, wood flooring, to name a few - can be ignited by the burning plastic.

There is even a new term for the plastic materials used in the manufacture of coffee makers, toasters, portable electric heaters and other common household appliances, light fixtures and thermostats: "electrical kindling."

Left unattended, the appliance or fixture experiencing an arc or short may destroy a house. If no one is there to call 911, the small fire in the thermostat or heater can spread throughout the structure and make determining the origin of the fire very difficult. If the house burns, the thermostat does too.

Most electrical fires could be prevented by the use of fire-resistant materials and construction methods. But such construction



Home fires can be sparked by home electronics and spread by melting plastic.

slightly increases the price of the structure and, when all of the thousands of such items are added up, the accountant wins out over the safety expert.

These fires are very destructive, but could be avoided by the use of products that are made with fire-resistance in mind.

To protect yourself from such a fire, install smoke alarms in the appropriate areas of your home. Acquire a few good fire extinguishers, the larger size, not the

small size. The larger ones allow you to spray farther and have more product to put out the fire.

Buy fire-resistant appliances and fixtures - good luck with that! Use high-quality electrical boxes, fixtures, plugs and switches when wiring the house.

If you have an older home, increase the ampacity of your service and add more circuits and receptacles. Try to eliminate extension cord "octopusses."

Install sprinklers in kitchens, garages, heating rooms and nance areas.

I am very interested in anecdotes from readers - send them if you have a story to tell with me.

Don Pearman is a columnist and author of "The Termites Report: How to Save Your Home from Pests, Rot and Earthquakes." Address questions to 2001 Hill Ave., Oakland CA 94602. Phone: 530-9444 Fax: 530-9455.

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Beautiful hdwd floors. In-law. Bay view. Montclair Better Homes Realty 339-4000

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Prudential CA Realty 337-8670, Uli Lirosi 273-9444 2-4

1965 WRENN, Upper Oakmore. Wonderful 3+bd trad'l w/great view! \$359,000
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great room. Updtd kit. 2-car garage. Prudential CA, Nancy Marshall 925-254-5455

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526 MIRA VISTA AVE, Grand Lake. Remodeled Brown Shingle w/ \$335,000
Old World Charm! 3/2.5. 2 plus rms. Huge yd. Wells & Bennett, Kate 436-4100

4187 FRUITVALE AVE, Oakmore. 3bd/1.5ba. FDR, spacious kitchen \$338,500
and mstr. Family rm. Workshop, RV pkg. Prudential CA, Ron 925-949-3382 1-4:30

4282 COOLIDGE, Art Deco w/expansive City & wooded views. Great \$329,000
yd. FDR, hdws, office, att'd garage. Coldwell Banker, Rachel Baller 339-1174

6262 BULLARD, Montclair. Large 5bd/2+ba single family hm used as \$299,000
duplex. 3/1+ up & 2/1 down. Woody setting. Prudential CA Realty 845-0200

4252 KNOLL AVE, Leona Heights. 3bd/2ba, 1989 single family hm. \$279,000
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4450 ELINORA, Leona Heights. Spacious hm nr good schools, transp, \$275,000
and shopping. Hdws, frpl, fenced yd. Wells & Bennett, Jini Kelley 531-7000 X247

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4281 KNOLL AVE, Superb Condition! Unique 3bd. 2 frpls, hdwd fr, \$269,000
'extra lg yard w/deck. Hill view. EZ freeway access. Excellent condition.
Century-21 Hartford Properties 800-829-9586 2-4

65 MERRIEWOOD CIRCLE, Montclair Retreat. 2/2 in tranquil wooded \$269,000
setting. Plus rm, decks, lg lot. Wells & Bennett, Kate Phillips 436-4100.

1617 HAMPEL, Glenview. 2+bd/1ba. Just listed! Trad'l w/FDR, family \$269,000
rm w/French drs to garden. Pacific Union, Michelle Vasey 339-6460

3370 BRUNELL DR, Joaquin Miller. 2+bd/2ba well maintained updtd \$269,000
ranch. Den or 3rd bd. Pvt yd. Filtered bay vws. Pacific Union, Teri Carlisle 339-6460

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interior access. Lg yd. Workshop. Coldwell Banker, Vicki Faulk 339-1174

4069 MAPLE, 1920's cottage/perfect starter! New Listing. Hdwd frs, \$209,000
sunporch, patio, upgrades. 2/1. Hurry! Coldwell Banker, Rachel Baller 339-1174

3598 LINCOLN, 2bd/1ba. Two for one offer! \$185,000
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260 CALDECOTT #207, 1bd/1ba. Beautiful "Golden Gate" model. \$175,000
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525 MANDANA #211, Grand Lake. 2bd/2ba. Bright. Clean. Quiet. \$160,000
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1830 LAKESHORE AVE #205, Beautiful upgraded 2bd/2ba condo. \$159,000
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180 CALDECOTT LN #209, Parkwoods. Immaculate 1bd/1ba condo. \$148,000
EZ commute. Gym, clubhouse, pool. A Steal! Prudential CA, Andrew 287-5857

2202 ROSEDALE AVE, Maxwell Park. Cute & comfy 2bd/1ba. New \$145,000
paint. New tiles in kitchen. Prudential CA 845-0200, Gregory Schofield 466-5984

6711 LAIRD AVE, 2bd/1ba great starter home w/bonus/family rm! \$135,000
Seller wants to sell! Prudential, 834-2010, Cynthia Robinson-Muhammad 452-6157

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2411 ROOSEVELT AVE, East End. 3bd/2.5ba on quiet street. FDR, \$375,000
frpl, landscaped. Great home/great yard! Prudential CA, Camille Rogers 464-1013

ALBANY OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

531 CURTIS ST, Light & airy Craftsman bungalow on quiet tree-lined \$299,000
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Marvin Gardens RE 527-2700, Kathie Berg 287-8752

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1701 SPRUCE ST, Stately Med w/beautiful architecture. Orig. wood \$720,000
w/details. Large formal rooms. Aupair w/separate entry. Bay vws. Level garden.
The GRUBB Company, Ed Kuo 339-0400 2-4:30

1585 CAMPUS DR, North Berkeley. Unique architect's hexagonal hm. \$450,000
Lots of wd, windows. Anchored in bedrock. Montclair Better Homes 339-4000 2-4

1636 STUART, 2bs/1ba. Delightful, well maintained. Large double \$219,000
garden w/spa. Thornwall Properties, Helen Popplewell 848-1950 X233 2-4

1555 OREGON ST, 3bd/2ba. Like New! Remodeled. Hdwd floors. \$119,000
Nr Ashby BART. Re/Max East Bay, Ygnacio Morales 261-2272 2-4

EL CERRITO OPEN SUNDAY 2-5

6762 GLEN MAWR, Sharp 2bd/1ba. Partial bay & SF views. \$215,000
Security Pacific, Jamie Lake 843-9017

EMERYVILLE OPEN SUNDAY 2-5

4270 ADELIN, Rare 2bdm/1.5ba condo w/no fees. Garden. \$144,000
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SAN LEANDRO OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

16561 KENT AVE, 1st open! 3bd/1ba Victorian Farmhouse needing \$135,000
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441 PIMLICO DR, 3bd/2.5ba. Main Chance Estates. Shows like \$265,000
a model! LaSalle Properties, Tom Erwin 339-8900 2-4:30

2738 OAK RD, UNIT 152, Just listed! 2bd/2ba condo! Loaded w \$135,000
amenities! Prudential CA, Grynbal/Randall 339-9290 2-5

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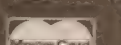
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FORD 1995 TAURUS QL AT, PS, AC, PW, PL, AM/FM, custom wheels, ABS. STK# 459660 Was \$13,095; Sale: \$9,988

Lloyd Wise Used Car Supermarket 638-4000

FORD 1994 T-BIRD AT, PS, AC, PL, AM/FM, CC, Tilt, Extra clean. Leather STK# 459100 Sale: \$8,988

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FORD 1993 Taurus, automatic, PS, AC, cass, tilt, Snogged/safety check. Must sell! \$3500. 510-796-9268

FORD 1990 Taurus L Sedan, excellent condition, PD Looks, AC, 94K, \$4100. 510-523-3498

HONDA 1996 CIVIC AT, PS, AC, Tilt, 10K low miles. STK# 459830 Was \$14,980; Sale: \$11,888

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HONDA 1996 CIVIC DX AT, PS, AC, Tilt, LOW miles. STK# 459870 Was \$13,550; Sale: \$10,688

Lloyd Wise Used Car Supermarket 638-4000

HONDA 1996 ODESSY AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, CC, Tilt, Extra clean. Low miles. STK# 459690 Was \$19,280; Sale: \$15,988

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HONDA 1995 ACCORD Sedan, 5-speed, White, 130K, Air, clean interior, AM/FM. Asking \$900. 510-814-8317

PONTIAC 1995 GRAND AM AT, PS, AC, PW, PL, AM/FM, cass, tilt, ABS. Loaded. 6 cyl. 48K Low miles. STK# 459620 Was \$6,788

Lloyd Wise Used Car Supermarket 638-4000

PONTIAC 1996 GRAND AM AT, PS, AC, PW, PL, ABS. STK# 459830 Was \$11,980; Sale: \$8,995

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TOYOTA 1990 Tercel hatchback, 4-speed, 65K miles, great mpg, dependable. Affordable. \$4,888. 510-843-2955

USED CAR DEPT. BERKELEY TOYOTA 510-843-2955

TOYOTA 1990 Camry LE Wagon, automatic, V6, PW, PL, tilt, cruise, cassette, excellent value! Only 85K miles. \$8,888. 510-843-2955

USED CAR DEPT. BERKELEY TOYOTA 510-843-2955

TOYOTA 1989 PICKUP 4-speed, short bed camper shell, looks good, runs good. \$4,988. 510-843-2955

USED CAR DEPT. BERKELEY TOYOTA 510-843-2955

CAT, free to a good home. Beautiful, female, calico 3 year old. Montclair. 339-2646

ALICIA! 12 years, DSH, charcoal tuxedo. Tested, shots, spayed. Lap cat. desired attention! Donation 444-3204

"BOBBY" (Cat, DSH, black 8 years, affectionate, friendly, needs loving! Nurtured, tested, shots. Donation 444-3204

MALE Rottweiler pup, found 8 years, affectionate, friendly, needs loving! Nurtured, tested, shots. Donation 444-3204

DOG - Long-haired female, golden with black & big tail (1/19) by Skyline Gate park. Lost! \$1500. 510-530-0175

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205 Giveaway

CHATTY 4 year old cat, owner died, spayed, shots. Needs loving home. Very affectionate. 531-6969

CAT - Maine Coone (Black/Tan) with green eyes, needs quiet home. Beautiful, affectionate, declawed. 510-339-0324

To Place a Classified ad CALL 339-8777

206 Lost

YOUNG Friendly dog found by Fairland Part-Chow/Husky Gold, needs home. 530-6552

ORANGE Tiger kitten, male, white smocked, pink/le collar. 510-339-0670

"TOOTS" German Shepherd, female, 2 1/2 years. Visalia (North Berkeley) January 18th. Green collar. Reward \$25-5027

LOST Gold Ring - Unique design. Call 510-748-0559 ext. #2 Reward Alameda/Monterey area

RAYBAN Sunglasses. Also Eyeglasses lost near Ridgeview Avenue (1/16) Alex. Voicemail number 510-321-9683

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING 339-8777

BULLETIN BOARD

As a community service The Hills Publications is pleased to offer Found, Giveaway and Lost ads free of charge (maximum 15 words for 2 weeks)

204 Found

DOG - White, young female pitbull (type), no collar, found at Lake Merritt (1/13). 510-530-8648

GERMAN Shepherd, Male, Found 1/9 in Montclair. 338-0405

MALE Rottweiler pup, found 8 years, affectionate, friendly, needs loving! Nurtured, tested, shots. Donation 444-3204

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702 Housing Wanted

26 YEAR old male, Cal student, seeks room, cottage or house with view. Will pay up to \$750. 510-889-6144

PROFESSIONAL Couple, Park Ranger/ Environmental Planner seeks rental. Willing to work trade. Call Karen: 510-704-5225

704 Sleeping Rooms

\$395 SLEEPING ROOM with bathroom. New Lake and Chabot. Available immediately. 763-4494

705 Sublets & Short Term

SHORT term rental, Oakland sunny apartments. Sparkling clean. Great location near Park Street. 855-9726

APARTMENTS**709 Alameda**

\$855 920 BEAUTIFUL sunny apartments. Sparkling clean. Great location near Park Street. 855-9726

711 1 Bedroom

\$685 920 BEAUTIFUL sunny apartments. Sparkling clean. Great location near Park Street. 855-9726

712 2 Bedrooms

\$1700 MARINA Village luxury townhouse, 2 bed, 2 bath, aqua view, fireplace, A/C, laundry, pool, garage, pool, near shopping/transportation 510-333-3720

714 Albany & Kensington

ALBANY, Kensington, El Cerrito, Studio, one, two, three bedroom apartments, flats, houses Berkeley Connection, 845-7821

716 2 Bedrooms

\$695 WALK TO EC BART 535 Liberty, 1 bedroom. Fresh paint and carpet, A/C, washer/dryer, eat-in kitchen, parking, near shopping/transportation. Call Kevin at 531-6008

718 2 Bedrooms

\$1500 ALBANY 2 bedroom duplex, yard, garage, hook-ups, hardwoods, Talbot/Sciano, #282590-B. Homefinders 549-6450

715 Berkeley

\$850 BERKELEY studio house. Gas stove, month-to-month, near BART. Berkeley/Parmer #65366-B. Homefinders 549-6450

716 Studios

\$5 off with this ad on regular subscription

BERKELEY CONNECTION RENTALS

FREE PREVIEWS
FREE PHONE USE
FREE TO LIST
UNLIMITED UPDATES
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

717 1 Bedroom

\$1100 SPACIOUS North Berkeley 1 bedroom apartment, 3 blocks to campus 966-9311

718 2 Bedrooms

\$1300 DUPLEX, laundry, newly renovated, new appliances, water paid, Kaiser. #66829-B. Homefinders 549-6450

719 1 Bedroom

\$1100 SPACIOUS North Berkeley 1 bedroom apartment, 3 blocks to campus 966-9311

720 1 Bedroom

\$1100 SPACIOUS North Berkeley 1 bedroom apartment, 3 blocks to campus 966-9311

721 El Cerrito & North

\$750 TWO bedrooms, \$900 3 bedrooms Richmond/El Cerrito Annex Laundry, carport, pool 235-8889

722 Emeryville

\$1400 WATERGATE 1 bedroom, pool, sauna, full dining/livingroom, partial Marina view, 415-775-7511

723 1 Bedroom

\$695 GLENVIEW DISTRICT, large unit, major renovations, wall-to-wall carpet, deluxe appliances 3507 Glenpark Rd. (formerly 14th Ave.) at MacArthur Blvd. Classic, controlled access, 1920's building 510-482-6377

724 Oakland & Piedmont

\$700 ONE bedroom, Statler Grand newly painted, wall-to-wall carpet, no pets, agent 510-748-5408

725 Studios

\$425 QUIET, clean, private entrance, laundry close to BART. Minimal cooking, non-smoking/ pets 482-2819

726 1 Bedroom

\$465 SUNNY studio, hardwood floors, mini-blinds. Some utilities included 510-336-1785

727 2 Bedroom

\$750-302 Ecudil 1 bedroom, good space, good natural light, laundry. One block to Lake, shopping and transportation; Call 465-2126

728 1 Bedroom

\$700 ROSE Garden, 1 bedroom condo. New carpet, dishwasher, refrigerator, secure parking, coin laundry 510-547-3317

729 1 Bedroom

\$750-302 Ecudil 1 bedroom, good space, good natural light, laundry. One block to Lake, shopping and transportation; Call 465-2126

730 1 Bedroom

\$750-302 Ecudil 1 bedroom, good space, good natural light, laundry. One block to Lake, shopping and transportation; Call 465-2126

731 1 Bedroom

\$750-302 Ecudil 1 bedroom, good space, good natural light, laundry. One block to Lake, shopping and transportation; Call 465-2126

732 1 Bedroom

\$750-302 Ecudil 1 bedroom, good space, good natural light, laundry. One block to Lake, shopping and transportation; Call 465-2126

733 2 Bedroom

\$1595 UPPER Rockridge/Piedmont with views, new carpet/painted, 2 bedroom flat. Washer/dryer, deck/patio. New appliances, utilities. Cable included. Call 605-6064

734 1 Bedroom

\$1750 PENTHOUSE, Adams Point, spacious, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Carpets, pet-friendly, non-smoking. Lease 510-834-9033

735 2 Bedroom

\$1800 TOWNHOUSE, classy, freshly painted, carpeted, 2 bedrooms. Large deck, view, pet-friendly, non-smoking. Lease 510-834-9033

736 1 Bedroom

\$1150 MILLS COLLEGE AREA 3 bedroom, 1 bath, Duplex. Garden setting, dining area, gas stove, Washer/Dryer in unit, (1 bedroom is small) Large redwood deck, Must See! Doug, 531-4018

737 2 Bedroom

\$1275 NEAR Piedmont Triplex. Three bedroom hardwood, deck. Share coin-laundry, garage 270 Santa Rosa, 547-1590

738 3+ Bedrooms

\$1500 GLENVIEW, upstairs unit, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. No dogs 4301 Park Blvd 510-654-5161

739 1 Bedroom

\$775 UPPER, 1719 MacArthur Blvd. carpeted, A/C, parking, laundry. Walk to Dimond/Glenview shops & restaurants 568-9465, 531-6301

740 1 Bedroom

\$825 SPACIOUS 2 bedroom townhouse in a quiet fourplex on a nice residential street. Freshly painted, new carpet and blinds, dish washer, disposal, gas range. Private patio, off-street parking. 2515 Bartlett, near Deering, 347-2335

741 1 Bedroom

\$850 ALL Utilities paid, \$2,300 to move-in 510-339-9102

742 Oakland & Piedmont

\$850 TWO Bedrooms, 1 bath, 4-plex, gas, laundry facility, quiet area, near transportation. 4316 Riley Way, 510-638-1575

743 1 Bedroom

\$985 SUNNY two bedroom plus den. Top floor duplex with deck in woods. Glenview area. Near Piedmont Day School. Express bus to BART. New paint and carpet, gas range, dishwasher, Lavors, parking, laundry 347-2335

744 1 Bedroom

\$995 ROCKRIDGE large 2 bedroom, dining area, large living room. Quiet location. Attractive well-maintained property. Includes parking 923-1189

745 Alameda

\$1100 MONTCLAIR Village, 1 bath, parking included. Walk to shops. Available now 339-8693 ext 6

746 1 Bedroom

\$1185 PENTHOUSE, nice clean, patio, view, secure private. Close to PIER Manager, 510-601-81/ 925-376-0363

747 1 Bedroom

\$1200 DIMOND, 2+ bedrooms in duplex, 2 bath, loft, roof deck, skylights. No pets non-smoking. Also 319 bedroom 531-1209

748 3 Bedroom

\$1300 LAKE AREA, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, dining room, hardwood floors, spacious, clean, old world charm, carport, 5-plex. 819 MacArthur/Althol. No pets 510-839-3100

749 1 Bedroom

\$1300 SPACIOUS Penthouse, 2 baths, balcony plus private deck, new carpet/paint. 421 Staten, 510-268-8528

750 Albany & Kensington

\$1350 ADAMS Point, extra large, quiet, 2 bath, fireplace, carpeted, laundry, extra parking available. 839-2387

751 2 Bedroom

\$1395 GLENVIEW duplex. Sunny 2 bedrooms, hardwoods, appliances, garage, yard, convenient location. Call 601-1666

752 1 Bedroom

\$1400 CLASSIC 1920's elegant 5-plex, residential tree-lined UPPER Lakeshore location. Vicinity Prince/Santa Ray. Spacious 2 bedroom top floor flat, formal dining room, original fireplace, hardwood floors, parking included 415-459-4295

753 2 Bedroom

\$1575 NEW Granite bath, granite kitchen, garden city view, sunny, quiet, BART. Heat, water, garbage, 2 carport, alarm included. 279 Yerino Street 510-893-2224

754 1 Bedroom

\$1400 FURNISHED Sunnyslope Avenue. Everything included! Optional duration Villa Renor. 510-841-4141

755 1 Bedroom

\$1625 LAKE Merritt, 2 story, 1 bedroom quiet enchanting, storybook cottage with secret garden and trellised deck off bedroom. English Country interior with rustic wood details, cathedral ceilings, unique tile work by Julia Morgan 1912-14; hardwood floors; custom drapes, corner fireplace, washer and dryer, carport. Year lease, 1st last and \$1000 deposit. Gardening skills preferred. Open house January 16 10-2 p.m. January 17 2-4 p.m. and January 23 10-2 p.m. Afterwards, by appointment only. Sheri 465-8514. Available February 1st, 1999. Pets negotiable with deposit. 141 Athol Avenue Lakeshore and 18th Street

756 1 Bedroom

\$475 MONTCLAIR, Snake Road. Furnished bedroom in private home. Bath, Sunporch, Parking. Secure View. (510)339-1019

757 El Cerrito & North

\$575 ONE bedroom, water and garbage paid. Appliances, parking 2811 Nicol Ave 925-258-0860

758 1 Bedroom

\$595 KAISER Hospital neighborhood, 1 bedroom with pet, near BART, Telegraph Ave, Piedmont Ave. Clean, closets, convenient 544-4965

759 1 Bedroom

\$625 SUNNY newly remodeled 1 bedroom apartment. Near freeways, on-site parking, secure pedestrian gates, security patrol 7 days a week 510-261-3487

760 1 Bedroom

\$645 BRIGHT, newly renovated. Near transportation, schools. Includes gas, heat, water, garbage, keyed entry 336-1785

761 1 Bedroom

\$475 MONTCLAIR, Snake Road. Furnished bedroom in private home. Bath, Sunporch, Parking. Secure View. (510)339-1019

762 1 Bedroom

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789 1 Bedroom

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804 1 Bedroom

\$475 MONTCLAIR, Snake Road. Furnished bedroom in private home. Bath, Sunporch, Parking. Secure View. (510)339-1019

805 1 Bedroom

SERVICE DIRECTORY

NEED SERVICING? ... GET YOUR SERVICE IN THE PAPER! CALL CLASSIFIED AT 339-8777

763 3 Bedroom

\$2100 MONTCLAIR, fantastic 2 story view. Secluded private road, large parking apron. CPS/ SELECT 510-462-0698.

\$2300 ROCKIDGE, near Library, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen, formal dining, 2 bedrooms, garage. 510-644-5441

\$2600 HILLER, 2 master suites, 3 baths, 8 month lease, available immediately. Call 531-6343.

\$2800 MONTCLAIR, wonderful 2 story traditional 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, prime location Great Schools. 287-9478.

\$2950 PIEDMONT, 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, living/dining family room, 2 fireplaces, great storage. 510-531-5210

\$3000 SPACIOUS 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, colonial style home on La Salle in Piedmont. Two fireplaces, large kitchen, 2 car garage. Available until March. Friday, 9:50-5:10-834-9815

764 4+ Bedrooms

\$2100 2002 story, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, traditional cape cod, lovely wood detail, family room, office, fireplaces, utility room, tree-lined street 415-929-1211, x-219

\$2300 PIEDMONT 2 baths, view, garden. Excellent schools, no pool. Security deposit \$4000. 510-623-9261

\$2800 FABULOUS, secluded 4 bedroom 3 bath home on tree-lined cul-de-sac in Upper Glenview, 3500 square feet of luxury surrounded by Oak trees, with canyon views and two decks. Hardwood floors, beautiful remodeled gourmet kitchen, fireplace, jacuzzi tub, garage, washer/dryer, alarm system. 428-1864.

\$3500 MONTCLAIR 4 bedroom, fireplaces, decks, carport, view, pool? 780000. 550-666-8. Homefinders 459-6450.

MONTCLAIR spacious beautiful remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 bath, non-smoking, walk to Village. Available now. 339-1888

SHARE RENTALS

771 Alameda

\$450-\$550 plus utilities, 2 furnished bedrooms to share 3 bedroom house. Washer/dryer, pet negotiable, clean okay. Non-smoking. 865-8892 or 521-2555.

772 Albany & Kensington

\$750 FEMALE preferred to share spacious 3 bedroom Albany home with professional woman. One block from Solano, 10 minutes to Campus. Washer/Dryer, fireplaces, utilities included. 510-925-7225.

\$1000 SHARE 3 bedrooms, multi-level hillside house abutting Tilden. Large separate "Home Office". Views, deck, gardens, laundry, fireplaces, full kitchen, own bath. Call 510-559-1877.

773 Berkeley

\$575-34 YEAR old professional woman to share large 3 bedroom Victorian near BART, 1 room with private bath. No pets. Hardwood, washer/dryer, yard. Available February 15th. First, last and deposit. Julie: 510-548-3467

\$595 SMALL room, \$795 (larger room), share living/dining room, kitchen and laundry 510-449-9181

WOODSHOP Space for rent in 7,000 sq. ft. fully equipped co-op shop. Prime Berkeley location \$330 per month, plus refundable toll fee. Call room, 510-849-3599

777 Lamerinda

\$450 PLUS utilities, Shared 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths. Morga. Female preferred, non-smoking. Preferred available 925-767-7225.

778 Oakland & Piedmont

\$350 ROOM in clean, spacious 3 bedroom Glenview near Fireplace, hardwood floors. Move-in \$900. 510-482-2167; 510-482-2396.

779 North Oakland

\$450 NORTH Oakland bedroom, share bungalow with non-smoking, petaphore architect. Fireplace, near BART. 510-654-7856.

785 Available

\$575 AVAILABLE sometime in February. Seeking female for bedroom plus oversized closets, share bath with 1 female. Share panoramic bay views, decks, laundry, hardwood floors, utilities, chores with 2 male and 1 female, 1 dog. No more pets. 339-6781; 339-2462

625 MONTCLAIR, 2 bedrooms

\$625 MONTCLAIR, 2 bedrooms, share utilities/1 bath with female/dog. Fireplace, washer/dryer. 510-339-3914

\$850 SHARE Rockridge home with female. Share bath, hardwoods, fireplace, yard, no pets. Non-smoking. 464-8731

ROOM for rent in large 3 bedroom Redwood Heights house. \$570/month, plus \$700 deposit. No cats, dogs negotiable. Available February 1, 510-530-7478

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

782 Berkeley & North

FREE Office space for rent, drive up access, 5 hour/weeking open air, typing 510-447-7810

\$1125 THREE room office suite, Berkeley, 650 sq. ft., newly remodeled, small co building, will finish to suit, 528-0880.

ELEGANT, sunny office suite, 660 sq. ft., 3 rooms plus space on 2nd floor. Near Alta Bates, 2034 Blake Street, Berkeley, \$1200. 510-848-4455

COTTAGE behind a house, kitchen, bathroom, loft and utilities included. Private, day use only \$500/month. 510-801-6665

\$3000 SPACIOUS 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, colonial style home on La Salle in Piedmont. Two fireplaces, large kitchen, 2 car garage. Available until March. Friday, 9:50-5:10-834-9815

784 Emeryville

WAREHOUSE, Emeryville. Not Live-work. All or part of 2100 sq. ft. For \$750 per foot. John at 510-654-1878 ext. 221.

786 Oakland & Piedmont

UPPER Grand, private office and entry, sunny, kitchenette, patio, parking, approximately 800 sq. ft. 528-5611

\$2800 FABULOUS, secluded 4 bedroom 3 bath home on tree-lined cul-de-sac in Upper Glenview, 3500 square feet of luxury surrounded by Oak trees, with canyon views and two decks. Hardwood floors, beautiful remodeled gourmet kitchen, fireplace, jacuzzi tub, garage, washer/dryer, alarm system. 428-1864.

\$3500 MONTCLAIR 4 bedroom, fireplaces, decks, carport, view, pool? 780000. 550-666-8. Homefinders 459-6450.

MONTCLAIR spacious beautiful remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 bath, non-smoking, walk to Village. Available now. 339-1888

SHARE RENTALS

\$450-\$550 plus utilities, 2 furnished bedrooms to share 3 bedroom house. Washer/dryer, pet negotiable, clean okay. Non-smoking. 865-8892 or 521-2555.

771 Alameda

\$450-\$550 plus utilities, 2 furnished bedrooms to share 3 bedroom house. Washer/dryer, pet negotiable, clean okay. Non-smoking. 865-8892 or 521-2555.

772 Albany & Kensington

\$750 FEMALE preferred to share spacious 3 bedroom Albany home with professional woman. One block from Solano, 10 minutes to Campus. Washer/Dryer, fireplaces, utilities included. 510-925-7225.

773 Berkeley

\$575-34 YEAR old professional woman to share large 3 bedroom Victorian near BART, 1 room with private bath. No pets. Hardwood, washer/dryer, yard. Available February 15th. First, last and deposit. Julie: 510-548-3467

774 North Oakland

\$450 NORTH Oakland bedroom, share bungalow with non-smoking, petaphore architect. Fireplace, near BART. 510-654-7856.

775 Available

\$575 AVAILABLE sometime in February. Seeking female for bedroom plus oversized closets, share bath with 1 female. Share panoramic bay views, decks, laundry, hardwood floors, utilities, chores with 2 male and 1 female, 1 dog. No more pets. 339-6781; 339-2462

625 MONTCLAIR, 2 bedrooms

\$625 MONTCLAIR, 2 bedrooms, share utilities/1 bath with female/dog. Fireplace, washer/dryer. 510-339-3914

785 Available

\$575 AVAILABLE sometime in February. Seeking female for bedroom plus oversized closets, share bath with 1 female. Share panoramic bay views, decks, laundry, hardwood floors, utilities, chores with 2 male and 1 female, 1 dog. No more pets. 339-6781; 339-2462

779 North Oakland

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625 MONTCLAIR, 2 bedrooms

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818 Oakland & Piedmont

MONTCLAIR. Very large 6 bedroom home. For sale by owner, priced under market. \$435K 510-530-6836

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Call 339-8777

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Licensed contractors are required by state law to list their license number in advertisements. The law also states that contractors performing work totaling \$300 or more must be licensed. Advertisements appearing in the following service categories without a license number indicate that the contractor is not licensed. For more information contact: Contractors State License Board for California and Contra Costa Counties. (510) 577-2429

901 Architecture & Design

RESIDENTIAL Architect Near Remodel Addition Experienced, professional, 2100 sq. ft. For \$750 per foot. John at 510-654-1878 ext. 221.

784 Emeryville

WAREHOUSE, Emeryville. Not Live-work. All or part of 2100 sq. ft. For \$750 per foot. John at 510-654-1878 ext. 221.

786 Oakland & Piedmont

UPPER Grand, private office and entry, sunny, kitchenette, patio, parking, approximately 800 sq. ft. 528-5611

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OUR excellent nanny/housekeeper is available part-time, 5 days/week in Piedmont or Oakland. 510-654-0888

MONTCLAIR Area: Looking for nanny to share with our 19 month old to 510-801-8266

LOOKING for Oakland Hills/ Piedmont family to share full-time nanny with my 8 month old son between February 15th. Call Gina: 510-658-6997.

910 Computer Services

COMPUTER Tutor. Certified Windows 95-98, MS Office 97, Excel, PC Software, Internet help, from \$20/hour. 788-8956.

Computer Tutoring to meet your needs. IMac, Windows 98/95, Microsoft Office, Internet, etc. References. 510-651-1615.

NETWORK Administrator/ Technical Support, Mac, PC, MS Office, etc. \$15/hour, \$35 on call. 510-915-3551. Max Helvay

912 Electrical

20 years of professional landscaping and maintenance services. We provide extensive local knowledge and references. It's a part of the garden, we can design, install or repair it. License #67067

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FREE ESTIMATES. 510-534-4173. Pager: 330-1810

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VAN'S GARDENING

General yard work, clean-up, maintenance, plants, lawn, fertilizer. For Free Estimates. Call 510-332-7568

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Ottensdahl's professionals have the finest state of the art equipment to clear land of brush, weeds, poison oak and other hazardous conditions. Call 510-524-4063

COMPLETE yard work, weeding, brush, tree pruning, removal, general landscaping. 527-8308; pager 510-0740

912 Electrical

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Commercial/ Residential. New installation. Staining. Refinish. Repair. Quality workmanship. Low prices. Free Estimates. 510-220-2683; pager 510-2836

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Installation, refinishing, sand, repairs, insurance work. Fast, friendly service. 15 years experience. 540-4826

Weekend Entertainment

General

LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE — "ChemMystery," ongoing. Survey a crime scene using scientific tests, such as fingerprinting and handwriting analysis, and figure out whodunit. There are separate scenarios for different age levels.

"Surf City," ongoing. Learn about the world wide web and how to surf it.

"Math Around the World," ongoing. Learn about math from a multicultural perspective through games and displays.

"Math Rules!" ongoing exhibit. A math exhibit of hands-on problem-solving stations, each with a different mathematical challenge. Make mathematical ice-cream cones, use blocks to build three dimensional structures, make dodecahedron pies from a variety of mathematical shapes and stretch mathematical thinking.

"DNA Model," ongoing installation. This 60-foot-long model of a deoxyribonucleic acid molecule is designed to kinetically teach the physical structure and chemical makeup of the small part of a gene that makes alpha-amylase, the protein in saliva that changes starch into sugar. It is designed for children to play on. At the Hall of Science Plaza.

"The Fallen Giant," ongoing installation. This 14-ton redwood tree sculpture, the creation of artist J.B. Blunk, is intended for touching, exploring and climbing.

"Within the Human Brain," ongoing installation. Visitors test their cranial nerves, play skeeball, master mazes, match musical tones and construct stories inside a simulated "rat cage" of learning experiences.

"Laser: The Light Fantastic," ongoing exhibit. Make a laser light show, work a supermarket-style laser, examine holograms

and stop a laser beam bare-handed.

"1492: Two Worlds of Science," ongoing exhibit. Explore European and Native American science and technology at the time of Columbus' voyage through activities with number systems, navigation tools, map making, computer games and a replica of the rocking deck of the Nina.

FAMILY WORKSHOPS — Registration is required and each child must be accompanied by an adult. Call for a complete schedule. \$15 one adult/child pair; \$5 for each additional person, includes Hall of Science admission. 642-5134.

HOLT PLANETARIUM — No knowledge of astronomy is required for these shows. Programs are recommended for ages 8 and up; children under age 6 will not be admitted. \$2 plus regular museum admission.

"Northern Lights," ongoing. Learn about the northern lights, also known as the aurora borealis. Through March 14: Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m.

"Colors From Space," through March 14. Learn what colors can tell us about the stars and planets. Saturday and Sunday, 2:15 p.m.

"Constellations Tonight," ongoing. Using a simple star map, learn to identify the most prominent constellations for the season in the planetarium sky. Through March 14: Saturday and Sunday, 3:30 p.m.

\$6 general; \$4 seniors, students and children ages 7 to 18; \$2 children ages 3 to 6; free children under age 3. Daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Centennial Drive, University of California, Berkeley. 642-5132.

GAIA BOOKSTORE — Aeshaah and Kokomon Clotey, Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m. A drumming

ritual and discussion of the book "Beyond Fear: 12 Spiritual Keys to Racial Healing."

Chris Idzikowski, Jan. 23, 6 p.m. The author will discuss "The Insomnia Kit: Everything You Need for a Good Night's Sleep."

Connie Cox, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m. The author will discuss her book "Thirty Days to a Simpler Life." Donna Eden, Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m. The author will discuss her book "Energy Medicine: Balance Your Body's Energies for Optimum Health, Joy and Vitality."

Stephanie Hoppe, Jan. 30, 1:30 p.m. The author will discuss her book "Sharp Spear, Crystal Mirror, Martial Arts in Women's Lives." There will also be a kajukenbo demonstration by fifth degree black belt Colleen Cragen.

Erika Holmes, Jan. 30, 3 p.m. An introductory look at self defense skills for children.

"Honoring Gaia: Reading, Feasting and Literary Auction/Fundraiser," Jan. 31, noon to 9 p.m. A day to celebrate Gaia and its contribution to the Berkeley community. Guest authors and poets will read from and sign their work. The event also features a potluck; bring a dish to share. At the Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St. Admission is purchase of any book from Gaia on that day.

\$3; free if author's book is purchased. 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 848-GAIA or 548-4172.

PARAMOUNT MOVIE CLASSICS 25TH ANNIVERSARY SERIES — ongoing. The evening includes a classic movie, walk-in music from the Wurlitzer organ, a newsreel, cartoon, movie previews and the Paramount's prize give-away game "Dec-O-Win." Call for movie schedule. Movie Classics patrons will also be able to view "Celebrating 25 Years," a retrospective exhibit of the Paramount's history on display in the theater's lobbies.

Jan. 22, 8 p.m.: "Breakfast at Tiffany's." With Audrey Hepburn. \$5. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 465-6400 or (925) 762-2277.

PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE — "Albert Johnson: A Wonderful Life in the Movies," through Feb. 28. A series of films championed by the late Albert Johnson, a former UC Berkeley professor. Titles include: "Closely Watched Trains," "The Battle of Algiers," "Faces," "My Brother's Wedding" and "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg."

\$6 single show; \$7.50 double bills. University of California Berkeley Art Museum, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 642-1412.

PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE — "Brazil: Cinema Novo and Beyond," through Feb. 24. A series of films from Brazil that were influenced by Italian Neorealists and the French New Wave in cinema. Titles include: "Amulet of Ogum," "The Angel is Born" and "Black God, White Devil." Call for schedule. At 2621 Durant Ave. \$7 general; \$3.50 seniors and children; \$8.50 double bills.

"Experimentos Tropicales: Recent Video from Brazil," through Feb. 24. A series of videos covering social issues, the outlook of Amazonian peoples, and visual essays. At Gund Theater, Berkeley Art Museum, 2625 Durant Ave. \$6.

Berkeley. 642-5249 or 642-1412.

GOLDEN GATE GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY TRAVEL FILM SERIES — "Faces of Italy." Produced and narrated in person by Dale Johnson.

Jan. 23, 2 p.m.: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland.

\$8 general; \$4 children age 14 and under. (800) 247-GGGS.

THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS — Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m. An evening of basketball with plenty of trick shots, comedy routines and displays of athletic prowess.

\$9.50 to \$30. The New Arena, Coliseum Way at Interstate Highway 880 and Hegenberger Road, Oakland. 762-BASS.

Exhibits

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS — "twistfoldlayerflake," Jan. 27 through March 17. An exhibit of recent work by Ingrid Calame, Sally Elsley, Linda Besemer, Seth Kaufman, Robert Youds, and others.

Opening Reception, Jan. 27, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Free. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; CLOSED FEB. 15. 5212 Broadway, Oakland. 594-3650.

CAPOEIRA ARTS CAFE — "Faces of the Enemy," through March 13. An exhibit of photographs of Cuban musicians and others by Vermont photojournalist David Garten. The exhibit will be accompanied by a variety of Cuban music.

Free. Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. 2026 Addison St., Berkeley. 666-1255.

CREATIVE GROWTH ART CENTER GALLERY — A Studio Survey of African-American Artists, through Feb. 19. An exhibit of works by African-American members of the studio in celebration of Black History Month.

Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 355 24th St., Oakland. 836-2340.

HOLY NAMES COLLEGE KENNEDY ART CENTER GALLERY — "Jennifer Kristie: Paintings, Orthodoxy and Dissent in the Contemporary Idiom," Jan. 24 through March 7. An exhibit of paintings.

Opening Reception, Jan. 24, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Free. Wednesday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 436-1587.

KALA ART INSTITUTE — "1998 Kala Artists' Annual," through Feb. 12.

Free. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. 549-2977.

JOHN F. KENNEDY UNIVERSITY GALLERY — "A Brush with Our Time," through Feb. 18. A retrospective exhibit of works by Kazuaki Tanahashi.

Free. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Arts Annex, Floor, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 649-0499.

TRAYWICK GALLERY — Radcliffe Bailey, through Feb. 28. An exhibit of monoprints, collage and handprints.

Free. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m. 1316 St., Berkeley. 527-1214.

WORLD INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY — Ma Brinich, through Feb. 28. Exhibit of 3-D paintings.

Free. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 510 16th Suite 100, Oakland. 763-4100.

Outdoors

OAKLAND ZOO — Savannah, ongoing. This zoo story consists of two huge animal aviaries and 11 African Savannah exhibits. See meerkat family, hyenas, monkeys and even a sea monitor.

\$6 general; \$3 seniors and children ages 2 to 14; free children under age 2; \$3 parking fee. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Golf Links exit off Interstate Highway 880, Oakland. 632-9525.

TILDEN REGIONAL PARK — "Ditching the Muddy Past," Jan. 23, 1:30 p.m. Help to ditch the ditches and berms of 15 project. Bring work gloves. 2233.

"End-of-Year Tea Talk," Jan. 31, 1 p.m. Hear some tales and sample green, black, oolong teas. Bring a cup and saucer. For age 8 and older; registration required. \$4. 636-1684.

BOTANIC GARDEN — "Plant Explorers of the World," Jan. 24, 1 p.m. Hear about the adventures and hardships of plant explorers. Registration required. \$15. (925) 820-1020. "Pigments, Perfumes and Potions," Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Feb. 14, March 7, 10 a.m. Learn how plants anchor the food chain, produce oxygen. Registration required. \$120. (925) 820-1020. "Fungus Among Us," Jan. 24 and Jan. 31.

LEGALS

The Public's Right to Know

339-8777

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 99-0162

The Name of the Business:

Delta Bay Construction & Engineering, 4301 Walnut Court, Antioch, CA 94509

Is registered by the following owner:

Donald Wayne Gonzaga, 4301 Walnut Court, Antioch, CA 94509

Louie Edward Gonzaga, 3124 Ash Street, Antioch, CA 94509

This business is conducted by a general partnership.

Registrants have not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein.

Statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa County on January 11, 1999

The Journal January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 1999

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Trustee Sale No. 900669

Loan No. 081411851 Title Order No. 0256722 APN:

114-200-022-2 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 5/29/92 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

On 2/11/99 at 11:00am, California Receivance Company as the duly appointed and authorized trustee of the Deed of Trust, Recorded on 05/92, Instrument 92-141948, Book 17564, Page 42, of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Contra Costa County, California, executed by Betty Anne Conway an unmarried woman, as Trustor, Great Western Bank of California, a national bank, as Beneficiary. Will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States) the following described parcel, a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in California: (a) The County of Contra Costa, California, 725 Court Street (corner of Main and Court Street), Martinez, CA all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said county, California describing the land therein. The property described is being sold "as is." The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 530 20th Street, Richmond, CA 94801. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$47,137.01 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Demand to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recording. California Receivance Co., 3451 Corbin Avenue, Mail Stop N 01, D 201, Northridge, CA 91318, (818) 387-7728, Deborah Brinich, Vice President, Date 1/12/99 ASP345484 121, 128 24

The El Cerrito Journal January 21, 28, February 4, 1999

SUMMONS

(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT

(Aviso a Acusado)

LEONARD GEUL, et al., Defendants

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

BARBARA KANG, dba CREATIVE TOURS & TRAVEL

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons is served on you to file a typewritten response at this court.

A letter or phone call will not protect you; your typewritten response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case.

If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

Después de que le entreguen esta citación judicial usted tiene un plazo de 30 DIAS CALENDARIALES para presentar una respuesta escrita a máquina en esta corte.

Una carta o una llamada telefónica no le ofrece protección; su respuesta escrita a máquina tiene que cumplir con las formalidades legales.

apropiadas si usted quiere que la corte escuche su caso

Si usted no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso, y le pueden quitar su salario, su dinero y otras cosas de su propiedad sin aviso adicional por parte de la corte.

Existen otros requisitos legales. Puede que usted quiera llamar a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de referencia de abogados o a una oficina de ayuda legal (vea el directorio telefónico.)

CASE NUMBER

(Número del Caso)

38393

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Order to Show Cause hearing be continued to March 12, 1999 and service of the summons and complaint be completed and filed with this court by February 25, 1999 and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that service of the summons and complaint upon be served on CONRAD GEUL, as an individual by publication in the Hills Newspaper Group, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland, California, California, pursuant to section 6064, government Code, and that a copy of the summons and complaint be mailed to the defendant at 147 Sussex Court, San Ramon, California

The proof of service will be filed by February 26, 1999

Dated: January 8, 1999 JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es)

Municipal Court of California, County of Contra Costa, Walnut Creek - Danville Judicial District, P O Box 5128, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es)

Gary J. Sweet

The law offices of SWEET & HINSDALE

A Professional Corporation

P O Box 27558

San Francisco, CA 94127-0558

DATE (Fecha)

September 28, 1998

Deputy, R. Beines

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED. You are served as an individual defendant

Publish The Journal January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 99-144

The Name of the Business:

Performance Champions, 5647 Southbrook Drive, Clayton, CA 94517

Is registered by the following owners:

Robert W. Free, 5647 Southbrook Drive, Clayton, CA 94517

Rogene Baxter, 100 Whitehorse Drive, Morgan, CA 94566

Julie O'Mara, 5679 Greengridge Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552

Margo Murray, 2317 Mastlands Drive, Oakland, CA 94611

Carol McHuron, 1670 Eighth Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122

A-J Fraters, 751 Laurel Street, Suite 718, San Carlos, CA 94070

Maureen Hochler, 49 Parkview Court, Corte Madera, CA 94907

This business is conducted by a general partnership.

Registrants have not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on January 8, 1999.

Statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa County on January 8, 1999

The Journal January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 98-8025

The Name of the Business:

MaryLou's Homemade Delights, 1572 Sycamore Ave., Suite F, Hercules, CA 94547

Is registered by the following owners:

Maria Luisa G. Murphy, Arthur Murphy, 118 Raleigh Court, Hercules, CA 94547

This business is conducted by a husband and wife.

Registrants have not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed herein.

Statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa County on December 28, 1998

The Journal January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 1999

NOTICE OF PETITION

TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

OF ROBERTINA M. RILEY

aka: ROBERTINA P. RILEY

Case Number P99-00070

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ROBERTINA M. RILEY

ROBERTINA P. RILEY

A PETITION has been filed by MARIA W. NORALL in the Superior Court of California, County of Contra Costa.

THE PETITION requests that MARIA W. NORALL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests that the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on March 4, 1999 at 11:00 a.m. in Dept. 37, located at 625 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of issuance of letters as provided in section 9100 of the California Probate Code. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court if you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a formal Request for Special Notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Section 1250 of the California Probate Code. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Petitioner: MARIA W. NORALL

8620 Don Carol Drive

El Cerrito, CA 94530

Publish The El Cerrito Journal January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 98-6855

The Name of the Business:

Sylvan Eighty Eight A Hair Studio, 1688 Locust Street, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Is registered by the following owner:

Kandace K. Karcher, 37 Clement Street, San Francisco, CA 94118

Lisa Ann Skinner, 1299 Rudderger Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

This business is conducted by co-partners.

The registrants have not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein.

Statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa County on October 27, 1998

Republish The Journal January 21, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 98-8125

The Name of the Business:

The Growing Tree, 1701 West 18th Street, Antioch, CA 94509

Is registered to the following owners:

Erin M. Johnson, J. Scott Johnson, 1701 West 18th Street, Antioch, CA 94509

This business is conducted by a husband and wife.

Registrants have not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed herein.

Statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa County on December 31, 1998

The Journal January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 1999

Coming soon!

A new look for an old friend.

THE JOURNAL

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THE JOURNAL

Mercedes-Benz unveils Vision SLR sports car

500-horsepower supercharged 5.5-liter V8
friends, admirers at Detroit auto show

From staff reports

Mercedes-Benz SLR is a high-performance sports car that blends styling from the champion "Silver Arrow" one race car with elements from the sports car of the 1930s. The 500-horsepower supercharged 5.5-liter V8 engine can accelerate the Vision SLR from 0 to 60 in four seconds, while a hydraulic brake system made from fiber-optic discs provides massive braking power.

AUTO SHOW REPORTS

Highlights of the striking SLR interior include an instrument panel inspired by race car spoilers, an oval steering wheel and carbon fiber bucket seats.

The innovative Cockpit Management and Data System (COMAND) with integrated satellite navigation will be featured as standard equipment in the all-new Mercedes S-class sedans this spring.



Mercedes-Benz photo

'Crossover confusion' gives rise to new forms at auto show

Michelle Krebs

Is it a sedan? Is it a truck? Life used to be simple when coupes with two doors and four doors, and trucks with two doors and four doors, were the only kinds of vehicles in the industry. But now, with minivans and utility vehicles built on truck platforms, muddying up the lines, the concept car and new unveilings at the 1999 American International Auto Show in Detroit, the lines between truck categories, lines between the car segments and between both are becoming blurred.

DOWN THE ROAD

of "hybrid" was dropped, as that was confusing because hybrid also implies a vehicle has two power sources, including one that runs on something other than gasoline.

Indeed, J. Mays, Ford's vice president of design, said in unveiling a number of crossovers for Ford's various divisions that the automaker has identified about five segments moving up from car toward truck and about five more segments moving down from truck to car.

Among Ford's crossover offerings is the Mercury (my) concept which is a cross between a car, a

truck and a sport utility vehicle aimed at young people.

"Ultimate utility vehicle"

Targeting older more affluent buyers, Ford's Lincoln brand introduced the Lincoln Blackwood, described by Mays as the "ultimate utility vehicle."

The Blackwood features the luxurious cab of a Lincoln Navigator with a stainless-steel lined pickup bed that is covered with a hard, lockable top.

The exterior sides of the truck bed are lined with dark wood from Central Africa.

Ford has not said if it will produce the Blackwood or (my). The Blackwood is highly probable; the (my) has an uphill climb for sure.

To go into production as a 2001

model is Ford's Explorer Sport Trac, which combines a sport utility with the covered cargo compartment similar to a pickup bed. Mays referred to it as "not a car-truck, but a truck-truck... it represents the birth of an entirely new segment."

It won't be alone in this new segment, however. Nissan unveiled a similar concept. Jerry Hirshberg, head of Nissan design, described its SUT (sport utility truck) concept as "a collision of a truck and sport utility vehicle."

"Too cool to categorize"

The SUT features the cab of a sport utility with the exposed bed of a pickup truck. The bed can be expanded by lifting the rear hatch and folding the rear seats.

DaimlerChrysler introduced a vehicle that will go on sale next year and is among the most difficult to describe. In fact, when company chairman Robert Eaton introduced the Chrysler PT Cruiser, he called it a "segment-breaker too cool to categorize."

In reality, the PT Cruiser, which started life as a concept vehicle a few years ago, is a high-roofed small sedan with minivan-like cargo space. With its 1930s style profile, it goes on sale for less than \$20,000 next year.

Sporty Citadel

Chrysler also showcased its Citadel concept, which is a hybrid of two varieties. It combines the sporty driving of a 300M with the cargo room and rear access doors

See Crossovers on page D-2

'Why is my Neon collecting water on the floor?'

Q&A

By Todd Hayes

Q I have a problem with my 1995 Plymouth Neon. I have noticed water on the passenger side of the floor when I'm cleaning out my car. Where is the water coming from? I have not driven through high water. How is it getting wet? Help! Lisa.

A This is a common problem. You will need a technician to lift the vehicle to inspect the a/c condensate drain tube. The water leak on the passenger floor is most likely to occur when the a/c system has been in operation. The problem is most likely due to a blockage in the evaporator housing to a/c condensate drain tube nipple. Simply have the technician remove the blockage and this should fix your problem.

Q My sister's '97 Nissan van has a problem. When starting and driving the van, all the dash warning lights come on and stay on. She knows the lights are lying because the gas tank is full, oil level is correct, and all the doors are shut. Upon applying the brakes and coming to a stop (brakes depressed and held), the warning lights go out and the fuse box on the drivers side buzzes. When she releases

See Q&A on page D-2

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CROSSOVERS: Industry always trying for the perfect concept twist

Continued from D-1

of a minivan in a package that looks more like a station wagon. It also has a hybrid powertrain. At General Motors, Saturn showcased its new three-door coupe, which went into production in November. The coupe term typically has been defined as a two-door, but that apparently is changing.

The Nomad returns

Likewise, convertibles are typically two doors, but Buick unveiled its Cielo concept which has

four doors. Even more difficult to define is a concept introduced by Chevrolet called the Nomad, a name worn by a sports wagon in the 1950s.

The new Nomad combines the performance and handling of a sports sedan with the access and flexibility of a sport utility or minivan vehicle, but it looks like a wagon. Like the original, the Nomad is equipped with a small-block V8, but adds advanced technology.

GM's Pontiac and Oldsmobile divisions showed for the first time two crossover vehicles that clearly

lean more toward sport utilities than any other vehicle. The Pontiac Aztec combines attributes of a mid-size sedan, a van and a sport utility vehicle to accommodate the active lifestyles of young people. The Aztec features reconfigurable seating and a rear compartment that can have a flat floor or flip and fold removable rear bucket seats.

The Oldsmobile Recon is a compact sport utility vehicle that offers open-air motoring through a two-panel, power sunroof that extends over both front and rear seat passengers.

Q&A: Yes, invest to uncover car ailment

Continued from D-1

the brakes, all the warning lights come back on and the buzzing stops. The mechanic at her garage told her it would cost her a fortune to troubleshoot it and to just drive it as it is. Any advice? Richard

A What a great brother you are to help your sister. I totally disagree with the advice of her mechanic.

Any time you're having an abnormal situation with your vehicle like this you need to have it inspected by a certified, trained technician. Get a second opinion.

Although I did not find a technical service bulletin that addresses your sister's problem, I suspect you will find a short in the dash that is causing this inconvenience.

A Nissan technician should be able to diagnose and fix the problem for less than a couple hundred dollars. Good luck.

San Francisco hosts 'beautiful roadsters'

AUTO SHORTS

By Arnold Wechter

SAN FRANCISCO—At least 40 winners of the coveted title "America's Most Beautiful Roadster" will be among the more than 500 historic and contemporary hot rods and customs at the Golden Anniversary edition of the Grand National Roadster Show, Feb. 10-15, at San Francisco's Cow Palace. The show is considered the top roadster event in the nation. These trophy-winning vehicles highlight a roadsters-only Main Arena display of more than 140 of the rakish, open cockpit racing machines so closely linked with the early history of hot rodding. The National Hot Rod Association Motorsports Museum in Pomona has produced a historic display featuring show appearances of famed racer-showman "TV Tommy" Ivo.

MONTVALE, N.J.—To more accurately reflect its mission to be the leader in the luxury segment within the U.S. market, Mercedes-Benz of North America will be officially renamed Mercedes-Benz USA, Inc. The new name will take effect this spring.

Since its inception in 1965, Mercedes-Benz of North America has been the sole importer and distributor of Mercedes-Benz cars and light trucks in the United States.

The company sold a total of 170,245 vehicles in the United States in 1998, an all-time sales record for the company. The company is located in Montvale, N.J. and employs approximately 1,500 people in 20 locations across the country.

TORRANCE—American Honda sales topped one million vehicles for the first time ever in 1998, shattering company records in the process.

Total 1998 American Honda sales of 1,009,600 were up 7.4 percent from 1997, the previous record. Honda Division sales of 899,208 were up 8.0 percent, topping last year's mark. Acura Division sales of 110,392 were up 2.1 percent.

"The consumer thirst for light trucks was the big industry new for 1998 and the same was true at American Honda, with light truck sales up nearly 35 percent," said Dick Collier, executive vice president of American Honda Motor Co., Inc. "That trend is likely to continue in 1999."

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Women in Business

Appearing Feb. 9th, 11th & 12th, 1999 in
The Montclarion, The Piedmonter,
Berkeley Voice, The Journal & the Alameda Journal

This special feature pays tribute to the women movers and shakers in the East Bay. Whether you have started your own business, sold over a million dollars of real estate or have been a leader in our local community, this section salutes top women professionals through photo profiles.

Deadline: Tuesday, Feb. 2, 1999 at 1 p.m.

A portion of the proceeds will go to a women's shelter.

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Approximately 125-150 words accompanied by a photo.

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Synthetic oil best lube for new car

ASK THE
AUTO DOCTOR

By Junior Damato

Doctor: I just bought a 1998 Saab 900. The manufacturer says to change the oil and filter every 5,000 miles. I was told that synthetic oil is better than regular oil. Is this true? I was told that synthetic oil is better than regular oil. Is this true?

George: Do the first oil change at 5,000 miles, and then change it every 7,000 miles. Synthetic oil is better than regular oil. Is this true?

Doctor: I purchased a new Saab 900 with a V6 engine. I was told that synthetic oil is better than regular oil. Is this true?

Control won't reset

Doctor: I purchased a new Saab 900 with a V6 engine. I was told that synthetic oil is better than regular oil. Is this true?

Doctor: I purchased a new Saab 900 with a V6 engine. I was told that synthetic oil is better than regular oil. Is this true?

sensors is the throttle position sensor. A Ford expert at Automotive Information System in Minnesota agrees with me on this. The T.P.S. is the first item to look at. The dealer has a great analyzer called Service Bay Diagnostic System that also has a flight recorder so the technician can take a small part of the tester on the road in your van and record all the inputs going to the computer. This will lead to the problem.

Warm starts a hassle

Dear Doctor: I own a 1995 Chevy 3/4 ton pickup with a 6.5 diesel engine. It starts fine when the engine is cold. My problem is a long cranking time on warm days when I try to restart the engine at normal temperature. The dealer could not duplicate my complaint. Earl.

Dear Earl: The dealer or shop will need to scan the computer, then check all input sensors and fuel pressure. A coolant sensor out of range will not set a trouble code, but will cause a long crank time at normal operating temperature.

Dunking sound a baffler

Dear Doctor: I own a 1996 Ford Taurus 3-liter V6 engine with 80,000 miles. At speeds between 30/40 mph, I notice a clunking sound like the transmission is trying to go between gears. I checked with the dealer and they said it could be the torque converter locking up and said this is a normal condition. Greg.

Dear Greg: Torque converter lock up has been a problem with a lot of car companies for many years. The torque converter locks up to lower engine rpm on the road, which will give better gas mileage.

The shutter, or clunking, is the converter locking and unlocking. I suggest a transmission fluid flush, not just a filter change. Have the shop put add a bottle of Lube Guard additive to the transmission fluid, which will make

the fluid a little more slippery, so when the converter locks up, it will slip slightly into lock up.

Does not compute

Dear Doctor: I own a 1994 Ford Taurus that has given me 56,000 trouble-free miles. After a short trip and restarting the engine within the hour, however, it starts stalling out. There are no codes in the computer. Can you advise? Henry.

Dear Henry: Computers do not record all problem events. At 56,000 miles, dirty injectors, carbon in the throttle body, or even a partly blocked fuel filter can be the cause. You will need to find a shop that has knowledge of your Taurus and let them do a full engine performance test.

Anti-lock brakes locking

Dear Doctor: I own a 1992 Chevrolet Corsica with anti-lock brakes, which have locked up on me a couple of times. After braking, the brakes lock up and the car will not move. My Corsica has 60,000 miles. The dealer checked the computer for fault codes, but there were none. What do you think? Henry.

Dear Henry: Did the dealer pull the wheels and check the brakes? I have seen a lot of vehicles in the snow/salt belt area with rusted and sticking wheel cylinders and caliper slides, as well as calipers both front and rear.

To condemn the ABS without having knowledge of the entire brake system is not the proper method of diagnosis. There is always the possibility that a valve or solenoid in the brake system could have stuck in a closed position. However, if you did not engage the ABS in a panic stop, this is unlikely.

Engine shuts off at random

Dear Doctor: I purchased from a friend a 1992 Dodge Dynasty 3-liter V6 with only 35,000 miles. Occasionally, I will drive a block

or two and the engine will shut off, as if someone shut the key off. After restarting the engine, it seems to run fine. This also happens on my way home from work. I asked my friend about the problem; he said he had this problem in the rain. Laura.

Dear Laura: The problem could be related to carbon build up, sludge in the throttle body and intake valves, or low curb idle speed. I recommend a full engine performance test before spending any money on replacement parts. Recently, we had a Chrysler minivan with the 3-liter V6 engine with a long crank time before starting and occasional stalling. I found a partly blocked fuel filter. There were no trouble codes and fuel pressure was at factory specs. The problem was the amount of fuel (volume); it was too low.

Squirrels chewing my wires

Dear Doctor: What products can I use to discourage squirrels from eating their acorns under the hood of my car? I opened the hood to check the oil and there was a lot of acorn shells on top of the battery. My other concern is the chewing of wires under the hood. I park my car outside and use it daily, so it does not sit idle for days at a time. Veronica.

Dear Veronica: You are not alone with the problem of small animals nesting overnight and dining under the hood. It also happens to vehicles parked in a garage that are not tightly sealed. I have used a lot of different methods.

One product that comes to mind is Ropel liquid, available at most hardware stores. Ropel is in liquid form. Spray the Ropel under the hood on the top of the engine where the acorns were, and especially around the rubber hoses and small thin plastic wires. You can also consult local pest companies.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, 3 Court Circle, Lakeville, MA 02347.

Huge capital merger looms for automakers

By Arnold Wechter

DaimlerChryslerNissan AG—sounds strange but it could happen.

Nissan Motor Co. president conceded last week that his company would consider a capital tie-up with DaimlerChrysler were to propose taking a stake in the Japanese in the Japanese automaker.

According to Nissan President Yoshikazu Hanawa, "If they propose entering a capital tie-up with us we would consider it seriously."

Previously both firms have said they are negotiating for DaimlerChrysler to take an equity stake in Nissan Diesel, Nissan's troubled truck affiliate.

But Nissan Motor, one of Japan's least healthy automakers, has refused to comment whether is also a subject of talks.

Hanawa's comments came four days after DaimlerChrysler Chairman Juergen Schrempf told an industry conference in Detroit that his firm is ready to consider acquiring an equity stake in Nissan Motor.

This week Schrempf will be in Tokyo for an exhibition of DaimlerChrysler vehicles. DaimlerChrysler's interest in a

tie-up with Nissan, the number two Japanese automaker, is that it would provide it with access to the Asian market, which it currently lacks.

What would Nissan get out of the deal? It would provide a needed infusion of capital as well as advanced technology.

Hanawa said he believed Nissan would benefit from such a tie-up in the fields of Intelligent Transport Systems and fuel-cell technology. Experts believe fuel cells will someday replace the internal combustion engines because they do less environmental damage. Intelligent Transport System provide traffic and location data to drivers.

While DaimlerChrysler and Nissan negotiate, Ford is reportedly talking to AB Volvo about a possible merger or takeover. Volvo appears ready to listen but is in no hurry to make a deal.

In the past the Swedish automaker has talked to Volkswagen AG of Germany and Fiat SpA of Italy. Because it is one of the most profitable automotive manufacturers in the world with a well-known name and a solid reputation for safety and its truck and bus division generate even larger profits, Volvo makes an attractive target.

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CarPoint

Nissan Frontier King Cab welcomed into family

WHEELS

By Tom Keane

Nissan's new SE-V6 4x4 pickup comes from a large family of trucks. Although there are seven siblings, our focus is on the King Cab. Nissan is offering it in two versions: a standard cab and a King Cab. The King Cab ranges from a large family of trucks. Although there are seven siblings, our focus is on the King Cab. Nissan is offering it in two versions: a standard cab and a King Cab.

It is capable of towing up to 5,000 pounds with an automatic transmission, but only 3,500 pounds with a manual transmission. The Nissan people boast that it has SOFIS, or Sophisticated Optimized Fuel Injection System. This system senses and corrects fuel flow delays inside the intake ports and adjusts both the fuel flow and air/fuel mixture to enhance performance and fuel economy. This is a good, I suppose, but the EPA mileage rating is only 15 miles city and 19 highway. The \$24,017 King I drove had an automatic transmission with a standard two-speed transfer case. This let me immediately drop into four-wheel drive when I traveled over icy snow-covered roads even at speeds up to 50 mph. When I returned to dry pavement, I could drop back to two-wheel drive with equal ease.

Another perk of the King Cab is the advantage of having a safe place for my grandsons to sit on the jump seats behind the passenger's seats. Instead of allowing me to figure out how to lower the front seat backrest, they simply jumped from my seat to the rear via the center console. Fortunately, these little tykes knew how to buckle up; for me to buckle them would have been a struggle. The Frontier is slightly higher than other small pickups which is the reason the designers included a step railing that serves as a running board. But once inside the truck, there is a lot of similarity to an automobile with car-like comforts that include convenience and safety. One safety feature to get my attention was a switch that requires the ignition key to turn off the passenger side airbag. When the switch is off, a message illu-

minates. That feature would allow me to carry a third grandchild in the front seat (in an emergency). Other safety features include an energy-absorbing steering column, front crumple zones, hood buckling creases, and pipe style steel side-door guard beams. As for comfort and convenience, the King has power windows and door locks with a remote keyless entry, plus a security system. The intermittent wiper/washer system was most helpful while driving on slushy roads. After stopping at a drive-in, the grand kids made good use of the rear seat cup holders, which is something new for the 1999 model. My cupholder was conveniently located between the two front seats. The truck also features a very fine audio system that has a com-

compact disc player plus a five-speaker system with a subwoofer. Making the sound compartment even more pleasant and car-like is an overhead sunroof. Another feature that added to its car-like characteristics is the suspension. Nissan made a careful blend of the spring and shock absorber rates, plus extra sturdy stabilizer bars which result in a very comfortable ride. I don't know if the other Frontiers are as comfortable as the King, but I suspect they are, as most siblings have family resemblance.

BASE PRICE	\$21,240
DISPLACEMENT	.3-liter
HORSEPOWER (net)	170 at 4800 rpm
TRANSMISSION	4-speed automatic
OVERALL LENGTH	196 in. 4978 mm
OVERALL WIDTH	72 in. 1828 mm
HEIGHT	66 in. 1676 mm
EPA MILEAGE RATING	15 city, 19 highway

Dodge releases four-door Dakota pickup

U.S. in line with popular abroad

TRUCK TALK

By Tim Spell

Automakers finally have realized that U.S. consumers can benefit from a concept that's been popular in many other countries. Detroit's North American International Auto Show, Dodge released a compact Dakota with a four-door cab. The 2000 Dakota Quad Cab is available for retail sale in the fourth quarter of 1999, and is assembled at the Warren Assembly Plant in Warren, Mich. The logical answer to the question, "What's next?", said Ber-

compact crew cabs impacting the market over the next several years. Like the full-size Dodge Ram Quad Cab that bowed last year, this stretched compact is a reaction to a truck market that's made a transition from a work truck to those pulling double-duty as a work and personal-use vehicle. The cab of the largest-in-class Dakota grows with the Quad Cab, incorporating two full-size, front-hinged rear doors with roll-up windows and conventional-mounted interior and exterior door handles. This configuration markedly boosts rear passenger access and egress, and offers comfortable seating for three adults. The rear seat has a 60/40 split-fold seatback, which can accommodate cargo on one side and passengers on the other, or provide a full cargo floor. Beverages find a resting spot on a pull-out cupholder and small articles can be stashed away in pockets in door panels and on backs of passenger seats. Despite the fact that cab length increases, the truck's overall length remains the same as the Dakota Club Cab extended-cab

pickup. This, of course, means that something had to give, so the Quad Cab ended up with a sawed-off cargo box that spans 5 feet, 3 inches. Dodge contends that benefits such as sportiness, maneuverability and a convenient size of the shortened bed outweigh this shortcoming. Company research reveals that 86 percent of consumers use their trucks for running errands and pleasure driving, not load-hauling. Also, 98 percent of compact truck buyers choose the 6.5-foot short bed over the 8-foot long bed. It's pointed out that the Quad Cab's 1,450-pound payload-carrying capacity is superior to any other compact domestic pickup. Along with more doors and a bigger cab, Dakota boasts the only V8 power in the compact segment. Buyers can opt for the new 4.7-liter V8, which replaces the 5.2-liter, or the 5.9-liter. The 4.7-liter produces 235 horsepower and 295 foot-pounds of torque. The brutish 5.9-liter gets the Dakota up to speed with 245 horsepower and 335 foot-

pounds of torque. Standard power comes in the form of a 3.9-liter V6 that cranks out a respectable 175 horsepower and 225 foot-pounds of torque. The 3.9-liter and 4.7-liter are offered with a choice of five-speed manual or four-speed automatic transmissions, and the 5.9-liter's sole mate is a four-speed automatic. The 4.7-liter also is available with a multi-speed automatic transmission especially calibrated to the engine. This quieter, more refined-shifting transmission features improved initial acceleration and real-time driver-adaptive shifting that fine-tunes the shift pattern to the driver. Along with two-wheel drive, the Quad Cab is offered in a choice of part-time or full-time four-wheel-drive models. With a large cab, four-door convenience and V8 power, the Dakota Quad Cab gives a new meaning to blowing the doors off the competition. Tim Spell is automotive writer of the Houston Chronicle Cars & Trucks section.

Auto

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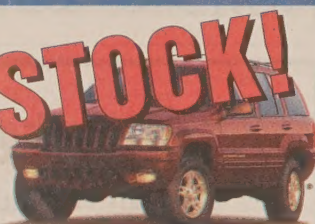
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